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THE FINANCIAL POST

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GRAIN COLLAPSE NEED NOT RETARD TRADE EXPANSION

Wheat Was Thought Profitable at Current Levels Last Fall

U. S. TRADE SLACKENS

Stock Market Decline Interpreted as Indicating That Business Expansion There Was Exaggerated

All other problems of business interest have been eclipsed, at the moment, by the crash in the grain markets and the accelerated decline in stock exchange prices here and in the United States. While the alleged connection between these two movements is extremely remote, business is endeavoring to fix upon something definite with regard to the probable effect of the former upon general conditions, and with respect to the possible significance of the latter. It seems now apparent that the business expansion, in so far as the United States is concerned, has not come up to expectations.

Certain features of the drastic decline in grain prices may be overlooked. The feeling that the necessity of selling wheat below the high peak of a fortnight ago is a serious blow to the country may become exaggerated. Few expected last fall that wheat would reach the $2 mark, and when it did, few expected that it would remain there long. In fact, the farmers were highly satisfied last autumn when wheat sold at $1.50. If wheat was profitable to them and to the country at $1.50, it is still profitable to them at that price, and the country has gained the added revenue from the quantity sold since that time at higher prices. Serious as is the shaking down process in grain prices for those directly concerned, it should have little effect on the business situation of the country at large, even though some adjustment of the outlook based on the buying power of the farmers may be involved.

A keen student of the business situation, who for years has kept in touch with conditions in Canada and the United States, arrived in Toronto this week after a tour from California through the Southern States and then north, during which he made careful inquiries en route. He got into touch with merchants, manufacturers and bankers in a number of cities and talked with drummers and business men while traveling. He states that while all is fair weather on the business horizon so far as political and financial influences are concerned, there is keen disappointment as to the actual improvement in the business being done. Merchants complain that the people are spending their money very carefully even where buying power has evidently improved and trade representatives find that they can only secure orders on a hand to mouth basis.

Particularly since the presidential election last fall the reports of business revival in the United States have been a psychological factor at least in deepening the feeling in this country that conditions are not improving as they might be expected to do. But reliable information from the trade and industrial centres as to actual business being done bears out the report as to the situation given above—that the anticipated improvement in trade in the United States has not materialized. It would seem that optimism has centred in the Wall St. boom and recently there have been indications of a change of feeling in that quarter as prices have shown a tendency to sag.

Support is lent to the above analysis of the situation by the current letter of Hayden Stone & Co. of Boston, which places emphasis on the fact that reports of the business recovery now appear to have been greatly exaggerated. Railroad buying, it is pointed out, has been disappointingly small. While earnings of the steel companies are showing a big improvement over the later part of 1924, business has been at lower price levels, and the improvement has not been in the ratio that increased volume of business would lead one to expect. It is shown that while there are reports of enormous sales in the automobile industry, actual figures show a decrease with relation to last year, but reliable information shows that competition is intensely keen and the margin of profits narrow. It is pointed out that the great portion of the grain crops was marketed far below last year's peak and before this year's high levels. Thus, while the farmers' purchasing power has been enlarged, it has probably not been increased to anything like the extent shown by reports based entirely on peak prices. "We believe," states the letter, "that the public imagination has, in a number of instances, become inflated over conditions which simply do not exist, and the actual figures as contained in the reports bear out this view."

Put Stock in Trunk but Kept It There Too Long

The old saying to buy certain stock "and put it in your trunk and forget about it," may be all right if taken figuratively, but when given the literal application does not always work out. THE FINANCIAL POST received an inquiry from a Montreal subscriber asking about Foster Cobalt mines. He holds 75 shares, purchased in 1906. He put them in his trunk and forgot about them, hoping that some day they would make him some money. He was right but he kept them in his trunk too long. He says he recently asked a number of Montreal brokers about the shares, but they never heard of the company. It is still in existence but the shares are worth little. The holder has lost much. A year after he purchased the shares, the company distributed $45,000 in dividends and the shares, caught in the great Cobalt boom, soared to the high level of $4.37½. Since then they have steadily sagged to a low of a ½ cent. The last transaction recorded was 2 cents a couple of years ago.

OF EVERY DOLLAR OF GOODS PRODUCED TAX IS 25 CENTS

Seventh of Gross Production of Canada Taken In Levies

From Our Own Correspondent.

VANCOUVER.—Taxation is hanging like a millstone around the neck of Canadian industry. Before we can obtain any results from any immigration policy, we must find a means to lessen taxation. These are some of the views F. E. Burke, general manager of the Wallace Fisheries, vice-president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, leading business authority, expressed to the British Columbia division of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

"If taxes continue to increase through the extravagance of governments and the spread of sentimental and impracticable legislation," he warned, "one of two conditions will result; the savings of the thrifty will be entirely depleted and we will all be pensioners of the state; or the people who own property of any kind will demand a reduction in wasteful and sentimental expenditure. Fortunately, in Canada, the second condition is developing. Times such as we are passing through are apt to have an awakening effect. They bring people back to earth; they exemplify the truth that there is no magic fund out of which taxes can be conjured. Taxes are paid out of industry, and these are accumulated only by industry, thrift and self-denial. How many Canadians realize that taxes take about one-seventh of the annual gross production of Canada and about one-fourth of the annual net production of Canada? Yet those are the facts. It means that out of every dollar's worth of goods produced in Canada our various taxing authorities take twenty-five cents."

Annoying Taxation

Mr. Burke referred to the sales tax as being the most objectionable form of taxation from the standpoint of industry. The Dominion income tax was objected to because it constituted double taxation, contained no provision for the periodical averaging of profits and losses, imposed an increased burden on industry, and left taxpayers in the dark regarding new interpretation rulings. He said that the Business Profits War Tax Act was still an annoying factor in the calculations of many concerns on account of the continuance of contingent liabilities thereunder. Then there was provincial taxation in its various forms, lacking uniformity and demanding an endless variety of returns, many of the levies practically duplicating one another. Finally, there were the municipal levies, requiring more detailed reports and providing an additional drain on the earnings of corporations. The imperative need of Canada to-day, he claimed, was economy in the expenditure of public funds.

EIGHT BANK STOCKS AT NEW HIGH LEVEL

Heavy Purchases for Investment on Break in General Market

Eight of ten Canadian bank stocks sold at new high levels for the year this week. The break in the stock market, caused the liquidation of speculative issues and the placing of the funds so released in investment shares like the bank stocks. Gains in the bank shares were not abnormal but the trading was much heavier than it has been for some considerable time.

The trend of the bank shares is shown by the following table:

	Last week	This week		Year	
	High	High	Low	High	Low
Commerce	201	203	200	203	193½
Dominion	196¾	200¾	200	200¾	189
Can. Nat.	149	150¾	148½	150¾	148
Imperial	188¼	190	188	191	187
Montreal	248⅝	250	248	250	246
Nova Scotia	268	268	265	268	263
Royal	236	236	235½	236	227¼
Standard	173	173	171	173	170
Toronto	199¼	200	199½	201	192¾
Union	110⅛	114⅛	111	114⅛	106

Reports are that General Motors is negotiating to take over Dodge Bros. More than $100,000,000 is involved in the deal.

PERMANENT END TO N.S. MINE TROUBLES IS BEING SOUGHT

Business Men See Changes That Would Avoid Petty Squabbles

By Staff Correspondent.

SYDNEY.—While the coal mines of British Empire Steel Corporation are idle through the miners' strike, the steel plant at Sydney is in full blast, with substantial orders ahead. This week rails were rolled for the first time since last August, and other sections of the plant are busy. New daily output records are being established.

Nova Scotia business men feel keenly that prosperity of the province is endangered by the constant miners' strikes and are more concerned with ways and means of permanently ending the labor troubles than in the solution of the present individual strike. The feeling is that the miners are a fine body of men, mostly Scotch-Canadian, and are unlikely to be misled permanently by radical leaders, as is proven by the fact that in the present strike the revolutionary leaders have been relegated to the background.

Assurance of more continuous work and a better understanding between the men and the company would make strikes over petty wage questions impossible. The continuous work would come from measures to enlarge the Central Canada markets for Nova Scotia coal, such as protection on slack and assistance to coke ovens as well as from a reduction in Besco costs by installation of more modern collieries like new No. 1.

Better feeling would come from a broader policy of recognition of the human element in the industry. In the steel plant, for instance, a fine spirit now prevails, due to the adoption of works council plan. Workmen are pushing production with enthusiasm. The strikes in the coal mines must be brought to an end is the plea of Nova Scotia business men.

The provincial government of Nova Scotia has accepted the proposal of the mine workers for a conference to discuss the proposal of the men to protect the mines under government supervision. This move is the first break in the clouds and may result in ending the strike.

TARIFF CHANGES ARE NOT LOOKED FOR IN BUDGET

Attitude of Progressives Will be Watched With Interest

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA.—The budget may be expected any day now. If one knew when the debate on the Petersen contract would end, it would be possible to say definitely when Hon. J. A. Robb would make his budget speech, for he is all ready. It doesn't take him as long to get ready as it has taken some of our finance ministers. He is not of the opinion that a budget goes down well in proportion as it is accompanied with a wash of eloquence. He is more inclined to the view—tell your story and get through with it.

In the meantime, there is much conjecture as to what the Progressives will do with the budget, for it is generally understood that there will be practically no tariff reductions. Some will probably vote against such a budget as that, but the far greater number will probably take the view that it would be better to accept it with a wry face rather than defeat the government and force an immediate dissolution.

It is quite evident that many unfavorable comparisons will be drawn between the way taxation is being reduced in the United States as compared with that in Canada. This is especially true because of the recent prediction made to a House Republican leader that probably $300,000,000 would be lopped from the United States tax bill during the coming fiscal year, and the further prediction that the surtax would be cut to 25 per cent., with other cuts on incomes generally.

Across the line the customs revenue presents no problem as it does over here, for it is higher than it was last year. But the fact is that taxation is being reduced over there because expenditure is being first cut.

Senators Feel They Saved Country Money

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA.—A considerable portion of the cost of two of the Canadian National Railway branch lines in Saskatchewan will be built out of moneys provided by the province of Saskatchewan. These are the Turtleford line in the north and the Bengough extension in the south. These two lines, or at least the portion that is to be constructed in the near future, are estimated to cost $2,800,000, of which Saskatchewan will put up $1,200,000. The Senators are now patting themselves on the back that they have saved this much money.

Dole System Kills Spirit of Those Who Could Make Good in Canada

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA. — Leading Westerners who have visited the British Isles recently speak of the effect of the dole system in impairing the old spirit of initiative, boldness and enterprise, that was at one time one of the distinguishing traits of the British character.

According to these men, the dole system seems to have given a large portion of the people the idea that the country owes them a living, and a fairly good one. When asked if they would not prefer to take a chance on Canada, some of the unemployed remark that they would rather have a bird in the hand, in the form of a dole, than take a chance on things in Canada.

These same Westerners tell some interesting stories of the way that immigrants are getting on their feet in the prairie provinces. One member of parliament cites the case of a German family in Southern Saskatchewan, which had been brought out through friends guaranteeing their fares. When they arrived at their destination the total fares for the family had cost $1,600. Were the Germans downhearted? Not a bit of it. The four children got to work and paid it off within a year and had $100 in the bank to the good.

Another foreign family, brought under similar conditions, settled in the northern portion of Saskatchewan. There were seven in the family and their fares cost about $1,800. Within a year they had paid back the entire sum and had $300 of a surplus.

The British dole system is indirectly killing the initiative of workers who might find success in Canada.

Simpson Financing Rouses Lively Investment Interest

Much Speculation as to Value of Common Stock and Price Being Paid for It—Collateral Bond Issue Novel in Canada but Common in United States

As the plan of financing in the reorganization of the Robert Simpson Company, and the formation of Simpsons, Ltd., entailing an issue of collateral bonds, is somewhat new to Canadian investors, more than usual interest has been taken in the offering. To the average Canadian investor a bond has been regarded as a mortgage bond, with a direct claim on buildings, plant, or other property. The collateral bond, which has been rather extensively used in financing in the United States, is radically different. In the case of Simpsons, Ltd., as will be noted by a reference to the prospectus, the security for the bond issue is to be the common stock of the Robert Simpson Company, the proceeds of the $5,600,000 issue being employed for its purchase. The prospectus plainly states:

> Simpsons, Limited, has been incorporated to acquire all the outstanding common shares of The Robert Simpson Company, Limited, of Toronto, which company and its subsidiaries own and operate in Toronto and Montreal two of the longest-established department stores in Canada, as well as an extensive mail order business. The Robert Simpson Company, Limited, with its subsidiary companies, has experienced an expanding volume of sales and growing earning power. The business will be operated under the present executive direction.

All but 7,866 shares are held in Toronto.

Of the preferred shares there are 149 English holders of 2,835 shares ond 838 holders in Canada of 30,665 shares with 26,500 shares in the treasury. Of the preferred P. Ellsworth Flavelle holds 850, Lady Clara Flavelle 600, while the Simpson employees' profit-sharing and savings fund holds 1,768.

Speculation as to Price

As the security for the bond issue now being made is the common stock of the Robert Simpson Company, there is considerable speculation as to the value of these shares which are being acquired by the company, and the price being paid for them.

The common stock of the Robert Simpson Company has been closely held, and there have been no transactions recorded as a guide to market values. The preferred shares of the company are quoted 96-97, and on this basis would show a return of about 6.20 to the investor. In Simpsons, Ltd., there are 100,000 shares of no par value common which appears in the balance sheet as representing capital and surplus of $5,372,736, "including the combined operating surpluses of constituent companies, amounting to $4,752,742."

Common Stock Earnings

Following is a record of what the common stock of the Robert Simpson Company has earned and paid during the past twelve years:

Year	Common Div. Paid	Earned on Common
1913	7 1-3 %	
1914	7 1-3 %	9.94%
1915	6%	12.79%
1916	9%	11.13%
1917	10%	14.92%
1918	10%	16.96%
1919	10+1%	21.86%
1920	11½%	36.87%
1921	8%	16.09%
1922	10%	11.01%
1923	10%	21.66%
1924	10%	35.58%

A stock dividend of 21 2 3% was paid on the common shares in 1917.

The latest registration of the common share holdings of the Robert Simpson Company at the Ontario Parliament Buildings shows that a majority of the stock was held by Sir Joseph Flavelle. The complete list follows:

	No. of Shares
W. A. Allan	100
Mrs. Nina F.	120
H. F. Burnett	500
C. L. Burton	750
H. G. Colebrook, London, Eng.	100
H. C. Cox	43
Lady Clara Flavelle	120
J. Ellsworth Flavelle	152
Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bt.	17,861
J. W. Flavelle and H. H. Fudger (in trust)	1,596
Mrs. Martha C. Foster	250
Mrs. Eva K. Fudger, Los Angeles	361
H. H. Fudger	2,822
T. P. Gray	150
J. B. Hayes	50
J. A. Jackson	100
C. E. Linstrum	100
W. J. F. Mallagh	100
J. E. Goldring	250
Mrs. Clara McEachren	120
Frank Y. McEachren	100
D. McKinnon	100
Wm. J. Morrow, Peterboro	10
Peterboro Sec. & Realty	250
G. H. Rennie	150
Tor. Savings & Loan, Peterboro	7,145
Wallace & Walker	100
Total	33,500

What is Value of Old Common?

The proceeds of the new bond issue would represent a little over 167 for the 33,500 shares of Robert Simpson Company common being acquired by Simpson's, Ltd., but there is nothing to indicate that all the shares are being bought for cash or that all are being acquired on the same basis. On the face of the plan as announced it might easily be that a much higher price would be paid by a minority group to acquire the controlling interest, and those thus acquiring control would accept for their old common shares, common shares in the new company.

In considering the book value of the common stock, it is interesting to note that according to the prospectus the earnings of the Robert Simpson Company for the past three years available for the common shareholders amounted to close to 35 per cent. although as will be seen from the figures given above the average for ten years was about 20 per cent.

This 35 per cent. is being taken as a basis for those who like to figure on such things, and various conclusions are being reached as to the value of the stock from the earnings standpoint; on a 10 per cent. basis it would be $350, and on a 20 per cent. basis $175, while, taking 15 per cent., which is regarded by many as a fair basis under the circumstances, the value would be $262.50. Another

(Continued on page 5)

LOAN COMPANIES MAY CUT INTEREST

Lower Rates on Loans and High Taxation Are Wiping Out Profits

The tendency towards lower interest rates on mortgage loans, heavy taxation and government restrictions tending to increase the expenses of operation, were mentioned as factors which might necessitate mortgage loaning institutions reducing their interest rates to the public, by George H. Smith, general manager of the Canada Permanent Mortgage Corporation, and president of the Land Mortgage Companies' Association of Ontario, at the annual meeting of the latter organization. Mr. Smith said:

> It seems to have been the general experience of most of our members that loaning was less active during the past year than for a considerable period. So far as my observation goes there are not yet visible indications of much improvement in the near future. With the considerable repayments we have received and are receiving, and with increased amounts available from other sources, the absence of a demand for mortgage loans adequate to absorb the supply of funds naturally results in the inevitable competition to secure investments with a tendency to reduce interest to rates which are unprofitable under existing conditions. Unless the requirements of borrowers are likely to increase in the near future, of which the present business inactivity does not afford any encouragement, it would seem to be worthy of consideration whether even the slightly reduced rates we are now paying for money are not too high. The very extreme measures of taxation to which we are now subject, in addition to other increases in the cost of transacting business, necessitates a considerably wider spread between the rates of interest paid and those received than was formerly found sufficient. The drastic reduction the Ontario government has made in its loaning rate, as well as in the interest paid on deposits, would seem to be an indication that we must make preparation for providing funds for loaning at rates which cannot be accepted without loss in view of the present cost of this money to those companies which are borrowers either by way of deposits or on the security of their debentures or guaranteed investment receipts.

NEED INSISTENT TO GET TOGETHER TO SOLVE ISSUES

Way Open For Manufacturing and Farming Interests

EDWARDS' CHANCE

Leader of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers Once Worked in Ontario Factory

From Our Own Correspondent

OTTAWA. — The efforts being made to get the farmers and manufacturers together in the consideration of national problems is being followed at the capital with keen interest. Confronted with the task of legislating for the various portions of the country, parliament knows well the need of a better understanding between the different interests and sections of the country. This has been brought home more forcibly this session than ever before. The prairie farmers' delegation in 1910 was an eye-opener, but it did not bring home so forcibly the division that exists in the matter of interests as the Maritime delegation did.

It is believed here that the possibility of getting together is better than many have thought. The attitude of a number of the Western farmers gives hope of this. They do not appear to be nearly as irreconcilable as some think. It is also being pointed out that many of them have a better realization of the problems of the East than they have been given credit for.

Ties of East and West

George F. Edwards, president of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, who acted as spokesman for the Canadian Council of Agriculture in the meeting with the Canadian Manufacturers' Association at Toronto, is a case in point. Thirty years ago he was a youth learning his trade in Hall's book bindery near the post office on Adelaide St., Toronto. He was a steady lad, and learned his trade well, and in due time came to be foreman. Young Edwards was just as thoroughly an Eastern lad as any boy being brought up in Toronto or any other Ontario city to-day.

Being of a spirited, enterprising and venturesome type of mind, he grew tired of binding books. Like many another Eastern lad he heard the call of the West and responded. Leaving the East he struck out for Saskatchewan with the idea of taking up land and farming. He took up a homestead in the country northeast of Regina, known as the Earl Grey district. He made good, and earned the respect of his neighbors. Gradually they saw that he was fitted to assume municipal responsibilities, and being in need of such men they soon placed him in office. After a time, Edwards moved to Markinck,

(Continued on page 21)

CANADIAN BACON DEMAND

A much stronger feeling has existed in the English markets for Canadian bacon during the past two weeks owing to the marked improvement in the demand for supplies and the somewhat smaller offerings with the result that a more active trade was done. Trade in American bacon was quite quiet.

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FOREIGN TRADE INFORMATION

MANUFACTURERS and merchants engaged in Foreign Trade, who contemplate sending representatives to Great Britain, France, South Africa, India, Australasia, China, Japan or the West Indies, will find it to their advantage to communicate with the Foreign Department of the Bank of Montreal at the Head Office in Montreal.

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HALF-SIZED CROP BUT MORE REVENUE IN SASKATCHEWAN

Final Returns Show Small Farm Costs Allowed Fair Profits

Nineteen-twenty-four was one of the most remarkable periods in the fascinating history of the grain growing Canadian West. After realizing the largest crop ever harvested, in 1923, indications of a much smaller crop in 1924 darkened the outlook. But, although the crop was actually smaller than even the lowest estimates, the net yield to the farmers of the prairies was greater than that of the bumper crop of the year before.

What has been said was more marked in Saskatchewan than elsewhere. That province which produced 58 per cent. of the yield of the entire country, in wheat, during 1923, fell back to less than half of the total yield of grains last year in comparison with 1923. The figures for the grains were 256,907,000 bushels as against 523,994,000 bushels the year before. This means that the costs of threshing and harvesting in general were almost cut in two. At the same time the total value of the crop was within $10,000,000 of the total value of the previous one. All field crops of the province in 1923 yielded $248,778,000 and in 1924, $237,310,000. This latter figure is based on low price averages such as $1.21 for wheat and 43 cents for oats. In other words, while the costs to the farmer were materially reduced, the net value was approximately the same. Since grain production is the leading industry of Saskatchewan, these figures help to explain why some of the large commercial firms report that debts are being liquidated, and the province is getting in a much better shape than that of a year of two ago.

Along with the improvement in the grain crops there has been a gradual growth in the livestock and the dairy industries of Saskatchewan. The butter output is more than three times as great as it was some ten years ago and cheese has increased to a much greater degree. A gradual increase in the total sales of livestock is reported from the livestock markets, principally at Moose Jaw and Prince Albert.

The importance of Saskatchewan as a farming area is well illustrated by the returns of the federal income tax. These returns show that the farmers of Saskatchewan paid almost half of the total amount paid by the farmers in all of Canada. The latter figure was $275,626 and that of Saskatchewan, $127,542. It is expected that this province will show a still larger percentage of the total this year.

As reported recently in the case of Manitoba, the improvement in farming conditions is being reflected in the financial position of a number of the municipalities. Some towns which were in financial difficulties two years ago, now report a substantial surplus. This is furthered by such disbursements of the crop revenue as the recent payments by the wheat pools of a portion of the sale price of the grain. There are, of course, some districts which are not so fortunate, as their crops were an utter failure. In such sections which fortunately are rare, conditions are worse than they were a year ago rather than better.

Some statistics bearing on conditions in Saskatchewan folow:

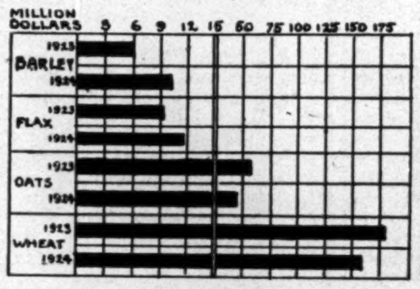
Saskatchewan Crop Yields

(Bushels)

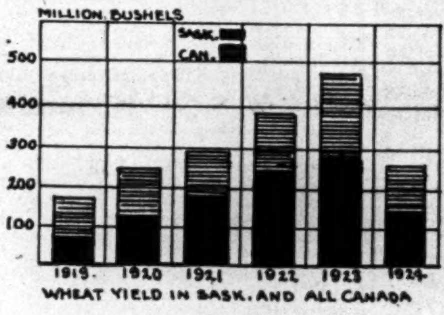
	1923	1924
Wheat	271,622,000	132,918,000
Oats	218,075,000	97,345,000
Barley	19,278,000	17,360,000
Rye	8,582,000	2,507,000
Flax	5,493,000	6,119,000
	523,050,000	256,249,000

(Values)

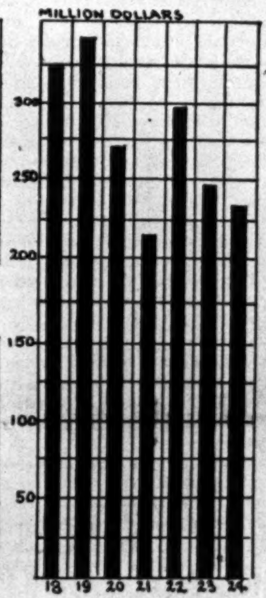
	1923	1924
Wheat	$176,554,000	$160,831,000
Oats	54,519,000	41,858,000
Barley	6,747,000	10,937,000
Rye	3,861,000	2,382,000
Flax	9,614,000	11,932,000
	$251,295,000	$227,940,000



SASKATCHEWAN GRAIN VALUES 1923-24



WHEAT YIELD IN SASK. AND ALL CANADA



VALUE OF FIELD CROPS, SASK.
THE FINANCIAL POST

OTTAWA DELAYS ITS CROW'S NEST MOVE

Railway Legislation Unlikely Until After Easter Holidays

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA. — The government's freight rates legislation will not make its appearance in the House until after Easter. No hint has been given of its real nature, though it is understood that the Railway Commission will be empowered to remove discrimination and it is also thought probable that parliament will lay down certain general principles for the commission to follow in fixing rates. The most that Hon. G. P. Graham has said is that the situation is intolerable, and will have to be righted.

It now comes out that the decision of the Supreme Court in the Crow's Nest case appeal is more sweeping than had generally been imagined. It was realized that by it the application of the agreement was confined to the 1897 C. P. R. mileage, but it appears that in the strict sense of the decision the territory is even more restricted than that, as THE POST has previously pointed out.

In the practical working out of the matter it would seem as though the Western provinces were now in a much worse position than before the appeal to the Supreme Court. They secured a verdict to the effect that that Railway Commission could not over-ride the Crow's Nest Act, but it is plain that the application of the agreement as interpreted by the Supreme Court would lead to an intolerable situation.

Popularity of Radio Closes the Victor Plant

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL.—The popularity of radio has had its effect on one industry—the gramophone manufacturers. The plant of the Victor Talking Machine Co. here has closed down and the company is experimenting in the manufacture of a combined radio and gramophone which it hopes to introduce in the near future.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN BRITAIN

Figures on unemployment in Great Britain in 1924 show a better condition than in 1923, though the situation is still bad. Figures covering the 11,500,000 people coming under unemployment insurance show 10.5 per cent. unemployed in 1924 as compared with 11.6 per cent. in 1923 and 14 per cent. in 1922. Wage changes in 1924 were chiefly upward.

Immigration Plans Are Bringing New Settlers

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA.—There is very little doing in immigration circles, for while there are reports of small parties of British settlers arriving under the new arrangement made with the British government, it is not thought that they will impart much of a stimulus to immigration generally this year.

Just as it does not take the report of an expert to tell an apple grower when there is an off year in his orchard, so it is quite unnecessary to wait for the opinion of experts on immigration to tell what the probable size of the inflow of new settlers will be this year. Just now it looks very much like an off season, though why this should be so insofar as farm settlers are concerned, is difficult to understand.

According to a return brought down in the House in answer to questions asked bv J. S. Woodsworth, the Canadian National Railways have their overseas immigration organization pretty well set up. The cost of its operations in 1924 was $178,329, as compared with $28,397 in 1923.

The information is also given that the company has settled on its lands seven British families under an arrangement made with the British government. Fifty-eight British boys have been brought out under 17 years of age under arrangement with the British government.

Keeping Philippines As a U.S. Trade Preserve

LONDON. — A correspondent from Manila reports that under the Republican government the island remains an American trade preserve, and any line of business from foreign countries which shows signs of increasing, is immediately the object of attention from the trade commissioner, who often increases the duty on it. For example, the duty on cement has recently been doubled and there has been agitation for an additional duty on textiles, which are coming in in large quantities both from the United Kingdom and Germany.

Mennonites Win Case Involving 95,000 Acres

From Our Own Correspondent

SWIFT CURRENT.—Ninety-five thousand acres of Mennonite lands which have been tied up in court since the inception of the famous law suit which went to the Imperial Privy Council and was finally decided in favor of the Mennonite colony, plaintiffs, have been released by order of the Court of Appeals.

GRAIN DECREASE COST RAILROADS SOME $30,000,000

Operating Income Lower While Overhead Charges Remained Fixed

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA.—The falling off in the 1924 Western grain crop, as compared with that of 1923, probably cost the railways of Canada $30,000,000 last year. The total operating revenues were $441,249,000, as compared with $471,236,000 in 1923.

If the crop had been as large as in 1923 there is no doubt that the 1923 figures would probably have been repeated. During the first part of the year, ordinary traffic was heavier than during the preceding year; but after the middle of July, traffic fell away badly. This will be readily realized when it is pointed out that the volume of grain traffic was 2,300,000 tons below that in 1923.

Labor and business generally felt in a marked manner the effects of this slump in traffic. Operating expenses were cut by $28,000,000, the cut in the payroll being no less than $15,000,000. Nor is this surprising for the average number of employees throughout the year was 8,500 less than in 1923.

There has been quite a drop in the number of employees and wages paid during the last six years. In 1919 the average number of employees was 185,177, and the wages paid $290,510,000. That is to say, 26,000 fewer persons were employed by the railways last year than in 1919, while the payroll was about $59,000,000 less.

Taking the railways individually, the Canadian National, over the whole of the system in Canada and the United States, had a net operating income of $11,689,000, or $1,550,000 below that in 1923. That is to say, it had this amount to apply on its fixed charges of nearly $70,000,000. The operating income of the Canadian Pacific was $242,000 below that of 1923.

The operating ratio of the Canadian Pacific last year was 79.24 per cent., or a little more than one per cent. lower than in 1923. On the Canadian National the operating ratio was 94.15 per cent., or less than one-half of one per cent. below that in 1923.

Of course, fixed charges are the real load, those of the Canadian National being about $70,000,000, whereas the total figure in the form of fixed charges, and dividends on the C. P. R., are only a little over $36,000,000.

Wheat Exports Smaller and Grades Are Lower

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA.—Exports of wheat during February were 4,146,439 bushels, as compared with 11,769,000 for the corresponding month last year. Owing to the much higher wheat prices, the value did not fall off to nearly the same extent as the quantity, being $7,799,000, as compared with $11,769,108 in February, 1924.

At the same time, on the total exports for the seven months ending February the increase in prices has not anything like offset the falling off in the volume of such shipments. During this period the value of exports was $151,692,000, a decrease of about $39,000,000 from that of the preceding period. The volume of exports has fallen from 191,455,000 bushels to 99,818,000 in that time.

Exports of wheat flour were considerably below those of February, 1924, being only 834,365 barrels, as compared with 1,091,942. On the other hand the value during this February was $6,775.000, an increase of $1,340,000 over that for February, 1924.

The quality of wheat during this crop year is much below that of the preceding year, for during the seven months ending February only about 58 per cent. graded No. 3 Northern or better, as compared with 85 per cent. last year.

CAR LOADINGS DECLINE

After a steady upward trend in freight car loadings since the latter part of December, a decline set in towards the end of February, induced largely by declines in coal and pulpwood shipments. Merchandise and miscellaneous freight continued to rise while livestock shipments showed a decided improvement. Other items remained approximately the same. Cumulative totals so far this year are more than 10,000 cars ahead of the same period last year, but the trend at this time last year was still upward, with heavy shipments of grain in prospect.

Canadian Conditions

Car Loadings—			
	1925	1924	
Week Mar. 7	51,700	57,529	—10.4%
	1925	1924	
Yr. to date	512,331	501,413	+2.1%
Grain Receipts—			
Aug. 1 to Mar. 6	200,213,180	316,697,858	—36.8%
Building—			
	1925	1924	
February	$4,883,547	$2,851,216	+71.3%
	1925	1924	
2 months	$8,832,581	$6,631,214	+32.2%
Bank Clearings—February—			
	1925	1924	
	$1,079,666,662	$1,265,380,844	—13.2%
Savings Deposits—Chart. Banks—			
	1925	1924	
Jan.	$1,249,622,592	$1,184,461,830	+ 5.5%
Current Loans—By Banks—			
	1925	1924	
Jan.	$910,697,141	$999,377,600	— 8.8%
Net Dominion Debt—Feb. 28—			
	1925	1924	
	$2,412,196,407	$2,410,162,174	+ 0.8%
Railway Earnings—			
January—			
	1925	1924	
C.P.R.	$11,896,513	$13,392,432	—11.2%
Oper. ex.	11,312,744	12,532,032	— 9.7%
Net	583,768	860,399	—32.1%
12 Months—			
	1924	1923	
C.P.R.	$182,502,156	$195,837,089	— 6.7%
Oper. ex.	145,274,914	158,358,079	— 8.3%
Net	37,227,241	37,479,010	— 0.6%
12 Months—			
C.N.R.	$235,588,182	253,135,487	— 6.9%
Oper. ex.	218,343,931	232,704,838	— 6.1%
Net	17,244,251	20,430,649	—15.6%
Balance of Trade—			
12 months Jan. 30—			
	1924	1923	
Exr	$1,063,829,743	1,019,860,499	+ 4.3%
Imp.	799,982,015	901,512,730	—11.2%
Bal.	263,847,728	118,347,769	+122.9%

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Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1727

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Rest and Undivided Profits (Oct., 1924) £2,347,393
Deposits (Oct., 1924) £39,719,331

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Cotton Production in The Empire is Increasing

NEW YORK. — It is estimated that some 250,000 bales ((400 pounds each) of cotton will be produced this year within the limits of the British overseas dominions, colonies and protectorates other than India, comparing with 79,400 bales produced in the cotton year 1918-19 and 178,730 bales produced in the cotton year 1922-23. Of course India for years has been a very large producer of cotton, her output for 1923 having been 4,209,000 bales of 478 pounds net; while Egypt, which is apt to be thought of in connection with the British Empire although now politically independent, produces annually in the neighborhood of 1,200,000 bales.

OPPORTUNITIES IN WOOL INDUSTRY FOR CANADIANS

Reasons Why Canada Does Not Import More From Australia

When the Hon. Dr. Earl Page, treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia, addressed a number of Canadian clubs during his trip through this country, he stated that of the $10,000,000 worth of wool imported into Canada for further manufacture here, less than $1,000,000 was purchased from Australia direct and asked why it was that Canadians did not buy more. His point was that freight vessels from Canada to Australia were heavily laden, but were returning partly empty, as shown by the fact that Australia purchased annually some $25,000,000 worth of goods from Canada whereas Canada bought from Australia only $1,800,000 worth. This unequal trade relationship increased freight charges and showed a one-sided trade balance decidedly in favor of Canada.

To secure definite information on the wool question as far as Canada was concerned, Dry Goods Review interviewed George A. Dobbie, president of the Canadian Woollen and Knit Goods Manufacturers' Association.

70,000,000 Lbs. on Grease Basis

"The total estimated consumption of wool by the people in Canada in the condition in which it comes from the sheep's back—the grease state—is 70,000,000 pounds per annum," said Mr. Dobbie.

"During the 1924 calendar year we grew in Canada 13,000,000 pounds of wool from sheep and lambs, of which we exported 6,320,468 pounds and retained for manufacture in Canada 6,679,532 pounds. During the same period we imported raw wool, tops, noils, waste, and yarns, of which the wool on the grease basis would have weighed 34,732,148 pounds, and we re-exported 1,282,348 pounds of this foreign wool. In other words, the foreign wool retained for manufacture in Canada in 1924 was 33,449,800 pounds as it is sheared.

Requires 10,000,000 Sheep to Clothe Canada

"The remainder of the wool consumed in Canada was imported in the form of woollen goods, further advanced than yarn and amounted approximately to 30,000,000 pounds. Roughly the total amount of wool consumed in Canada represents the wool produced by a flock of 10,000,000 sheep or more.

"We imported from Australia direct in 1924 raw wool and combed wool in the form of tops, to an amount which represented 2,178,233 pounds. No doubt there was considerable Australian wool beyond this consumed in Canada, but there is no way of ascertaining the amount because wool is imported from other countries than Australia, in the raw condition, semi-manufactured or fully manufactured, it might be the product of any one of twenty-two different countries.

"The most accurate way," said Mr. Dobbie, "to ascertain comparative amounts is to use the greasy weight figures; but in values the total amount of wool not further advanced than yarn, imported into Canada in 1924 amounted to $13,985,430, of which $924,660 worth was imported direct from Australia. Allowing the generous sum of $3,000,000 for profits to dealers, etc., there is left the very conservative estimate of greasy wool at $10,000,000, and this is apparently the figure used by the Hon. Dr. Page. Of course, this figure does not include any estimate of the value of wool imported in goods further advanced than yarn."

Big Opportunity in Sheep in Canada

Dealing with the question as to why we do not grow more wool in Canada, Mr. Dobbie pointed out that approximately 60,000,000 pounds of wool on a grease basis is bought from abroad, of which the origin is not known, which figure does not include wool grown in Canada and retained, or wool imported direct from Australia. These figures indicated that a tremendous increase could take place in wool production in Canada and also a tremendous increase in the processing of wool in Canada.

In this connection, a statement made by G. E. O'Brien, of the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers' Association, is of great interest. "World consumption of wool," he states, "in the last three years has been 300,000,000 pounds greater than the pre-war consumption. The number of sheep in the world to-day is less than before the war. There is no reason why the bulk of the wool consumed in Canada should not be grown here to the benefit of farmers and consumers."

Farmers Should be Helped

Mr. Dobbie thought that owing to the length of time it will take to increase the flocks of Canada, the most generous estimate being 250,000 head per annum, by natural increase and holding lambs from the market, that special encouragement should be given to the wool growers or the Canadian farmer would not be able to take full advantage of the present favorable world conditions.

Also, if the Canadian woollen schedule, which was out of date for modern world conditions, was revised so that the bulk of the wool consumed by the public was processed in Canada from the greasy wool to the finished article, the purchases of wool from Australia direct would undoubtedly be greatly increased, which would tend to correct the freight and trade balance situation in accordance with Dr. Page's suggestion.

PORTUGAL.—A law permitting the unrestricted manufacture and importation of matches into Portugal has been approved by the ministerial council, effective April 26, 1925.

How Sales Tax Discriminates

Example No. 8

Sugar, flour and other ingredients used in the manufacture of biscuits and candy are exempt from sales tax. There are thousands of small shops scattered throughout Canada selling over the counter these products made on their own premises, on which the Government receives no revenue by way of sales tax.

But the manufacturer of biscuits and candy who operates a factory is compelled to pay sales tax on the sale price of his product, while his competitors — and the competition from these biscuits and candy shops is very serious—pay no sales tax.

FRANCE DEPRESSED; LOOKS FORWARD TO TWO LEAN YEARS

Conditions Have Changed Remarkably — Business Slack

PARIS.—A distinct change has come over business conditions in France. Conditions are very unsettled and business is slack. This is a rather remarkable change. It indicates a backward tendency. In 1923 visitors from Canada were amazed to find such a feeling of prosperity and apparent happiness. There was no unemployment, business seemed to be brisk in all lines, when the expected would have been the opposite in the country in whose territory the war had been carried out. The direct and tangible evidences of the war were not visible. It was exactly the reverse of conditions existing at the time in England.

To-day this evidence of prosperity and happiness has in a great measure disappeared. Business is being done on a hand-to-mouth scale, merchants are buying only for immediate needs and quick turnover. Lack of confidence in everybody and fear of new taxes are two factors. It is certain that new charges on the public will come out of the budget.

The result of all this is that, despite the low prices of almost every kind of securities, nobody buys extensively. The French "rentes" are neglected, although they now bring in a net revenue of 8 per cent. The stock exchange is absolutely dead, and the only transactions that take place run on £ and $, the former especially since the British bankers want to bring it to par with the $. Fortunately, these deals on speculation are not quite so disastrous for the French trade as they might be, on account of the currency market on terms, which is now used extensively by all importers.

Another reason for the slackness of stock exchange is that, since the use of the "bordereau de coupons," which compelled everybody to register every coupon that was paid him, and allowed the income tax authorities to examine all private accounts in the banks, anybody who could do it, sent his money abroad, thus draining funds which, otherwise, could have been speculated with on the home market. All bankers are strongly opposed to "bordereau de coupons," and are using their influence to get it cancelled. In fact, it has not brought any more money into the state coffers and it will now be very diffcult to get back the large sums that have crossed the frontiers.

Everybody is looking towards two years of straightened means, after which they hope the worst will be over, but, unless export business is good, large transactions at home are not to be expected. Still, the large number of tourists, taking advantage of the low exchange, and probably of the Paris Exhibition during the summer, will help in a good way.

N. ATLANTIC LINES WELCOME INQUIRY

No Body So Well Qualified to Make Such Investigation as the Imperial Shipping Committee

LONDON.—Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister, referring to the charges in connection with Atlantic freights made in the recent report to the Canadian government, declared at the annual dinner of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom that if at any time such charges were made on responsible authority they called for full and impartial investigation.

No body was so well qualified to undertake such an inquiry as the Imperial Shipping Committee, which had proved its competence and efficiency for a considerable period and had won well-deserved tributes from the governments and traders of all parts of the Empire.

It was only right to say that the Chamber of Shipping and the Liverpool Steamship Owners' Association had informed him that the North Atlantic lines would cordially welcome a searching investigation by the Imperial committee. The interests of Empire trade and Imperial shipping were closely interwoven.

The two had grown together and served each other. Each was directly interested in the success of the other, and the closer the understanding, the franker the relations between British producers and traders throughout the Empire and British shipowners on all the seas the better for both and for the development of that Imperial trade which was their common interest, and on the growth of which lay the best hope for all the citizens in every part of the British Empire.

CENTRAL DIVISION BACKBONE OF C.N.R.

Nothing to Support Claim of West That Prairie Provinces Carry Burden

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA.—The official statement showing that the Canadian National Railways had an operating loss of $1,124,353 last year on their Western division, coming as this has on a loss in 1923, has aroused much curiosity as to which is really the better paying portion of the National system.

Many Western champions claim that the West really carries both of the railways, this being made the basis of a claim for lower rates in the West. Insofar as last year is concerned, this claim has been very effectually answered by replies to questions asked by Senator Casgrain.

On lines of the Canadian National west of Fort William in Canada, the gross receipts per mile last year were $6,465. East of Fort William they were $13,138. The net operating expenses on the Canadian National lines, west of Fort William, were $6,575, and on lines east of Fort William they were $11,886 per mile.

It is the central division that is carrying the National system, and enabling it to make as good showing as it does. The foregoing figures made no allowance for fixed charges.

Better Market Abroad for Canadian Wool

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL.—The general wool shortage of world, coupled with a better understanding on the part of buyers, and grading to conform with generally accepted standards has resulted in a much increased sale of Canadian wool to British and continental trade. In 1924 over 1,000,000 pounds were sold in London and Bradford, which compares favorably with the total foreign sales of the previous year of 500,000 pounds. To-day Canadian wool is looked upon, grade for grade, as being the equal of similar foreign wools. Owing to the decrease in the number of sheep, the wool domestically grown showed a decrease in 1924 from the preceding year.

The Occidental Fire Insurance Co.

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FIRE AUTOMOBILE HAIL

Guaranteed by The North British and Mercantile Insurance Co., Ltd.

Balance Sheet as at December 31st, 1924

ASSETS

Cash in Bank	$ 43,523.51
Agents' Balances	79,308.93
Sundry Debtors	14,411.02
Losses Recoverable	72,278.14
Bonds and Debentures	573,710.30
Loans on Mortgages	82,348.65
Real Estate	13,000.00
Interest Accrued	11,479.59
	$890,060.14

LIABILITIES

Losses under Adjustment and Adjustment Expenses Outstanding		$ 66,762.59
Amount retained on account of Reinsurance		55,929.05
Sundry Creditors		48,332.71
Taxes and Accrued Interest		5,620.28
		$176,644.63
Reserve for Unearned Premiums		179,930.72
		$356,575.35
Capital and Surplus:—		
Capital Authorized and Subscribed:		
5,000 Shares of $100 each	$500,000.00	
Capital Paid Up		200,000.00
Surplus as at December 31, 1924		333,484.79
		$890,060.14

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75th Annual Statement OF THE

Ætna Life Insurance Company

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

MORGAN B. BRAINARD, President

Life, Group; Accident & Health, Group; Liability and Workmen's Compensation Insurance

CAPITAL STOCK, $10,000,000

JANUARY 1, 1925

ASSETS

Home Office Buildings	$ 1,893,500.00
Real Estate acquired by Foreclosure	250,006.18
Cash on Hand and in Banks	9,880,101.12
Stocks and Bonds	95,113,098.52
Mortgages secured by Real Estate	94,425,526.97
Loans on Collateral	190,000.00
Loans secured by Policies of this Company	23,090,284.53
Interest due and accrued December 31, 1924	4,938,859.80
Due from Re-Insurance Companies and others	29,325.16
Premiums in Course of Collection and Deferred Premiums	10,989,192.28
Amortized Value of Bonds and Market Value of Stocks over Book Value, less Assets not Admitted	4,756,724.75
Total Assets	$245,556,619.31

LIABILITIES

Reserve on Life, Endowment and Term Policies		$167,114,314.00
Reserves not included above		8,005,852.73
Premiums paid in advance, and other Liabilities		2,426,356.60
Unearned Interest on Policy Loans		568,891.31
Taxes falling due in 1925		2,501,675.04
Reserve for Special Class of Policies, and Dividends to Policyholders payable in 1925		7,064,200.45
Losses and Claims awaiting proof and not yet due		2,249,885.95
Unearned Premiums on Accident, Health and Liability Insurance		9,123,902.25
Reserve for Liability Claims		11,251,410.30
Special Voluntary Reserves		4,250,000.00
Capital	$10,000,000.00	
Surplus	21,000,130.68	
Surplus to Policyholders (including Capital)		31,000,130.68
Total Liabilities		$245,556,619.31

New Booklet Now Available

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT LOANS PRODUCTION STATISTICS POPULATION, AREA AND RESOURCES *of the* PROVINCES 1925

A Handbook for Investors and Dealers in Canadian Bonds

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The DOMINION SECURITIES CORPORATION LIMITED
MONTREAL TORONTO LONDON, ENG.

BETTER YEAR FOR WESTERN GROCERS

An Increase in Profits and Improvement in Liquid Position Shown

Western Grocers profits in 1924 were better and the liquid position is also stronger, as shown by the annual report. Net profits after depreciation and additional payments of income taxes for three previous years dating back to 1919, amounted to $22,139. The bank loan was reduced nearly a quarter of a million during the year.

The profit and loss figures follow:

	1924	1923
Profits	$63,680	$47,252
Depreciation	31,771	43,745
Income tax	$ 9,768	4,956
Pfd. div.	......	83,601
Balance	$22,139	x$85,050
Special reserve	......	83,601
Total	$22,139	$x1,449
Previous balance	9,050	10,955
Surplus	$31,644	$ 9,505

xDeficit.

Working Capital

	1924	1923
Cur. assets	$3,088,252	$3,346,682
Cur. liabs.	1,691,297	1,984,624
Net working capital..	$1,396,955	$1,362,058

The balance sheet shows bank loans have been somewhat reduced, standing at $1,240,000 as against $1,483,010 a year ago. Goodwill is still carried at the high level of $3,111,722.

Geo. H. Smith President Ontario Mortgage Assn.

Following are members of the executive of the Land Mortgage Companies Association of Ontario appointed at the annual meeting:

Honorary president: C. W. Cartwright, Landed Banking and Loan Co., Hamilton.

President: George H. Smith, Canada Permanent Mortgage Corporation, Toronto.

First vice-president: J. C. Breckenridge, National Trust Co., Ltd., Toronto.

Second vice-president: Walter Gillespie, Toronto Mortgage Co., Toronto.

Secretary-treasurer: T. D'Arcy Leonard, Toronto.

C. E. Weeks, Victoria Trust and Savings Co., Lindsay.

J. J. Gibson, Chartered Trust and Executor Co., Toronto.

J. M. Purcell, Guelph and Ontario Investment and Savings Society.

D. M. Cameron, Hamilton Provident and Loan Corporation.

M. Aylsworth, Huron & Erie Mortgage Corporation, London.

C. W. Strathy, North American Life Assurance Co., Toronto.

A. M. Smart, Ontario Loan and Debenture Co., London.

J. W. Stewart, Southern Loan & Savings Co., St. Thomas.

J. B. McKechnie, Manufacturers' Life Ins. Co., Toronto.

E. E. Reid, London Life Insurance Co.

W. J. Helm, Midland Loan & Savings Co., Port Hope, Ont.

W. G. Watson, Toronto General Trusts Corporation.

F. N. BURT

The market action of F. N. Burt has been quite erratic during the week. Trading opened at 180 and on buying orders of 800 shares sold up to 190½ only to later react to a week's close of 179 bid, 183 asked.

STEEL OF CANADA

Common shares of Steel of Canada broke back to 81 in face of the decline in U. S. Steel. The annual report for 1924 will be forthcoming in a few weeks, but there have been no authentic indications as to just what it will show, outside information from pretty good sources being that common dividend will be shown earned. Advices from Hamilton estimated present operations at about 66 per cent. of capacity. The rod mill and sheet mill were reported running full. The rolling mills were reported to have about five months work ahead.

BELGO 21 MONTHS' PROFITS $4,173,286

Operation of Company Under Canadian Control Proves Most Successful

Belgo Canadian Paper report covering 21 months ending Dec. 31, shows profits of $4,173,286. Depreciation and taxes provision absorbed $1,088,887, bond interest $742,500, sinking fund $240,000, leaving $2,101,899 available for distribution. Preferred dividends took $420,000 and 6 per cent. was paid on the common for the final quarter, or $127,500, leaving $1,554,399 to add to surplus account.

Progress has been achieved by the company since transfer and control to Canada. The economic advantages of Canadian ownership of Canadian industries is graphically illustrated. Fixed assets during the twenty-one month period have increased by $1,900,000. Reserves have increased from $250,000 to nearly $1,500,000, while a surplus fund of $1,554,000 has been built up.

Current assets stand at $5,140,199, with current liabilities at $1,944,457. Three reserves have been set up: depreciation and depletion, $864,689; contingent, $388,458, and sinking fund, $240,000.

Loew's Report Shows an Improvement in Position

Loew's Toronto, theatre, for the year ending Jan. 31, shows a $23,000 cut in gross profits, but an even larger cut in operating cost. The balance sheet shows a decrease in funded debt and the Loew's Booking Agency loan, $26,918, has been wiped out.

Operating revenue from the Yonge Street Theatre amounted to $223,717, compared with $237,111 in 1924, and from the Bloor Street Theatre, $41,207 against $49,598 in the previous period With the inclusion of rents of $1,664, total revenue was $266,588, a decrease from $289,724 in 1924. Operating expenses show a greater reduction than the decrease in total revenue. General expenses were down from $91,243 to $78,417, and charges in connection with the company's funded debt from $60,846 to $50,349. Depreciation allowances were about the same at $56,524, compared with $57,046. After deduction of these items operating profits of $81,297 remained. This compares with $80,588 in the previous year. With the balance forward there was available for distribution the sum of $144,930. Appropriations were made as follows: Taxes, $18,071; preferred dividends, $34,330 and the balance of $93,525 carried into the new year.

The chief changes in the balance sheet are a reduction of $43,000 to $400,000 in the amount of first mortgage bonds outstanding and the payment of the loan to Loew's Booking Agency, $26,918. Cash on hand amounted to $36,801 compared with $36,484. Total assets are valued at $2,217,846 and fixed assets at $1,374,037.

February Trade Shows Improvement in Balance

According to the trade report just issued by the Bureau of Statistics, February's trade showed a favorable balance of $8,696,212 as against $5,140,661 for the same month last year. Although the report indicated the seasonal falling off normal at this time of year, the total trade was the largest for February since 1921.

The total volume of trade for the eleven months ending with February is approximately $70,000,000 smaller than that of the previous eleven months' period. This was due largely to the falling off in imports which has been in evidence for some time, as total exports were approximately $22,500,000 in excess of the same period last year.

Following are the figures for total exports and imports for February during the past three years:

	1925	1924	1923
Exp.	$70,126,125	$67,274,543	$57,656,161
Imp.	61,429,913	62,133,882	65,307,686
Bal.	$8,696,212	$5,140,661	$7,651,535
For. exp.	1,038,302	1,057,234	990,151
Tot. trd.	132,594,340	130,465,659	123,954,008

The Securities Markets

MARKET BREAK IS PUZZLER; SITUATION RATHER OBSCURED

Is it a Definite Downward Trend or Only Reaction? is Asked

MARKET INDICATOR
(20 Industrial Stocks

Week Mar. 18 High	Week Mar. 18 Low	Week Mar. 11 High	Week Mar. 11 Low	Mar. 1924 High	Mar. 1924 Low
73.7	71.2	74.2	72.6	71.3	67.0

There is a great deal of speculation over the week's break in the stock market. Keen students are trying to size up the situation in an effort to conclude whether a definite break has come and a downward trend started, or whether it is just a reaction with a shaking out of the weak ones.

The trend of events has been of such a nature to upset most of the calculations of market students. A break in the market was to be expected because of the high levels to which prices had soared. Conditions veered around to favor the bears somewhat when leading brokerage houses switched their position because of the reports that the expected new business was not materializing. This movement was just under way when the break in wheat arrived. Not slow to grasp the advantage of such news, the bears made the best of it. This has momentarily rather obscured the situation.

It is difficult to get anyone to come out and take a solid position on the market. It may be that when the weak accounts are fairly well shaken down, the bull movement may again take control. The viewpoint in this regard seems to be, that while there is some disappointment over business not rising up to the expectations of the market, there remains the strong possibility that this improvement may only be delayed and that the fall may see the long talked of prosperity boom break.

Thus are pictured the two sides of the market. The bears contend that over-optimism carried the market rise faster than trade improved and that the market must now adjust itself to a parity with business. The bulls, on the other hand, contend that the improvement is just delayed and that given time business will adjust itself upon a parity with the market.

The trend of the Canadian markets for the week is shown by the table below. Rather interesting is the heavy accumulation of bank shares. It indicates a heavy buying on investment account at a time when the speculative markets are not too secure. Declines in Canadian shares for the week totalled 40, or more than half the total of 79 active common stocks.

	Gains	Losses	Unchg.	Total
Banks	8	0	2	10
Paper	0	5	4	9
Steel	0	3	1	4
Milling	0	5	1	6
Utilities	2	5	7	14
Transp.	1	5	3	9
Textiles	1	5	2	8
Industrial	6	12	1	19
	18	40	21	79

International Paper Makers Union in Need of Funds

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL. — From a resolution which is being forwarded to the various locals for a referendum vote to be taken between April 1 and 15, it would seem that the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers is in need of funds.

The text of the resolution is:

"Whereas, the funds of our International Union have been depleted to the extent that it retards the progress and extension of our organization, due to lack of revenue to reduce our outstanding obligations; and

"Whereas, the integrity and honesty of trade unions has never been on trial because of refusal to pay their obligations; and

"Whereas, our International Union has contracted unavoidable outstanding indebtedness through recent injunction against our organization and through strikes; this indebtedness must be paid; and

"Whereas, the integrity of our membership is on trial unless we meet these obligations; therefore be it

"Resolved, that we assess all members in good standing, as of April 1st, 1925, one day's pay on prevailing wages, to be paid before September 15th, 1925."

An attempt was made by officers of the Paper Makers Union a year ago to levy a special assessment of 35 cents per capita, but it was defeated.

British Controlled Oil Report on Past Year

British Controlled Oilfields first annual financial statement as a producing concern shows a balance from production account of $901,889. Shipments of oil commenced December, 1923, so that revenue from the sale of crude oil credited to the production account has only been obtained during the last seven months of the financial year. A profit of $589,878 is shown on the sale of the company's investment in the V. O. C. Holding Co. Interest, discounts, etc., produced $46,380. Against these credit items the whole of the development and administration expenses for the twelve months—August, 1923, to July, 1924—and other expenses in relation to the issue of shares have been written off, leaving a credit balance of $90,244 carried to the balance sheet.

Profit and loss figures follow:

Balance from production	$ 901,889
From sale of investments	589,878
Int. and disc. recd.	46,380
Total	$1,538,148
Dev. and adm. exp.	1,392,397
Balance	$ 145,751
Other expenses	55,506
Surplus	$ 90,244

RAILWAY EARNINGS

Canadian National Railways

Week end:	1925	1924	Change
March 7	$4,086,169	$4,850,392	—$ 764,223
Jan. 1-Mar. 7	37,288,679	40,963,401	— 3,674,722

Canadian Pacific Railways

Week end:	1925	1924	Change
Mar. 14	$2,885,000	$3,283,000	—$ 398,000

St. Lawrence Flour Has Headlong Crash

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL.—In two days this week, St. Lawrence Flour Mills Company crashed from 54 to 28. All efforts here failed to disclose the reason of the bad break. The president of the company, T. Williamson, denied the current rumors that the company were overloaded with wheat which had been purchased at high prices. Replying to inquiries by your own correspondent, A. E. Gagnon, the secretary, stated that he knew no reasons why the stock should have dropped the 26 points.

At a meeting of the board of directors held here this week, it is said that the dividend question was not brought up. The dividend rate used to be 6 per cent., but it was reduced to 4 three months ago.

The date for the next dividend declaration is about April 15, and Mr. Williamson stated that the board does not meet again for some months.

The situation with regard this stock is clouded at the moment. There is a feeling here that in view of the circumstances and judging from the nature of the last balance sheet the dividends, which have already been cut, may be temporarily discontinued in order to conserve resources.

FLOUR STOCKS REACT TO WHEAT DEBACLE

General Declines Also in Prices But Indications Are for Increasing Export Demand

That the worst crash in the wheat markets since war times should have at least a psychological effect on the various branches of the milling industry is inevitable. A decline of 65 cents in less than two weeks followed by erratic fluctuations in prices has changed the outlook from the standpoint of securing further raw materials, and the situation with each individual miller hinges on whether or not a large quantity of wheat, bought at high prices, is on hand. If the miller has hedged his commitments he is not particularly concerned with the price change, but if he was carried along on the tide of optimism, expecting price strength to continue, his present position is less favorable. But there is a third situation in which a miller may find himself, and it is stated that some of the largest are in this group—to have been fortunate enough to have made large purchases before the price rise.

Coming on top of something of a slackening in foreign demand for Canadian flour, the wheat price decline knocked down the price of flour by 40 cents, making a net reduction of more than a dollar within two weeks. Whether or not this is to be blamed entirely for the decline in flour stocks is debated. At ony rate there were five losses, no gains, and one unchanged, among the Canadian flour stocks during the week, the most important of these declines being St. Lawrence.

In foreign business, however, prospects are excellent for a busy season during 1925. Flour was exported to 44 different countries during January, no less than 347,226 barrels having gone to Russia alone. The next heaviest buyer was Great Britain with 233,346 barrels, followed by Germany with 89,310 barrels. Greece took 18,408 barrels, Denmark 14,706, China 16,778, the Irish Free State, 14,889 and Jamaica 13,485 barrels. During the 12 months ending January, exports of flour were 11,300,000 barrels, or 75,000 more than for the preceding year.

Atlantic Sugar Has Improved Production

From Our Own Correspondent

MONTREAL.—Since the beginning of 1925, Atlantic Sugar has experienced a decided speeding up in business. In January the effect of the increased demand began to make itself felt, and in February the company ground and sold 32,000,000 pounds of sugar. During the current month the plant is producing at the rate of about 35,000,000 pounds and for February, the mill executives claim the output will run up to a total of 43,000,000 pounds. All this sugar has been sold.

The company have recently booked orders which will ensure a large production during May, whilst advices from abroad express the idea that the export demand will continue throughout the summer. Calculations have been made which show that the company will earn approximately $400,000 for the first four months of this year after allowance has been made for fixed charges, interest and depreciation. This is a better showing than the company made during the whole of last year. The 1924 statement will be published shortly and it is expected to reveal an improvement in the company's position, with fair earnings for the year, but since the date of the balance sheet it can be seen that "Sugar" has gained valuable ground.

Sugar Exports Are Up; Total Value is Lowered

MONTREAL.—The exports of Canadian refined sugar during the month of February show an increase over the amount exported during the same period of 1924, whilst the actual value shows a drop of over $2,000. The figures are as follows:

	Pounds	Value
February, 1925 ...	8,882,000	$607,377
February, 1924 ...	6,166,678	$609,625

Total shipments for the first two months of this year of refined sugar were 129,119,158 as against 111,209,605 for the first two months of 1924. The total manufactured in Canada in January and February increased from 95,307,311 to 125,892,969 despite the fact that the amount manufactured in February dropped over 9,000,000 pounds as compared with the same month of the previous year.

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a public utility investment

The business of distributing natural gas is based upon the same factors that other utilities are, such as:

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In round figures net sales of Armour and Company in 1903 amounted to $177,750,000. In 1924 these sales were in excess of $800,000,000.

Armour and Company Class "A" Stock, offered at $23 a share to yield over 8 per cent, should interest investors.

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HIGH LEAD PRICE A FACTOR

INVERMERE, B.C. — The continued high price of lead is giving encouragement to the owners of low grade propositions throughout the Windermere mining division. A new property about 17 miles west of Wilmer is being opened up.

LABOR TROUBLES IN SWEDEN MAY BENEFIT CANADA

General Lockout Declared —Canadian Pulp Companies Will Benefit

From Our Own Correspondent

MONTREAL.—A general strike of over 130,000 men and embracing amongst others the pulp and paper industry has been declared in Sweden. Should the strike be of any duration, it will have a decidedly beneficial effect on the Canadian producers of both pulp and paper.

Through the medium of a commission the Swedish Government is endeavoring to restore harmony between the workers and the employers, and the work of this body has already commenced, as they are investigating the conflicting demands of both parties.

As to the results on the Canadian pulp and paper trade, Sweden is one of the leading producers of the world and any prolonged lockout there would have a very marked effect on the pulp markets of the United States which annually import a large amount of wood-pulp from Sweden and in addition considerable quantities of paper.

Swedish pulp and paper exports to all parts of the world during 1924 included 240,000 tons of mechanical pulp, 842,000 tons of sulphite pulp, 266,000 tons of sulphate pulp and 184,000 tons of newsprint. These exports went to all parts of the world, but the two best customers were the United States and Great Britain.

Imports into the United States from Sweden in 1924 were as follows:

	Tons	Total Imports Tons
Sulphite Pulp ..	326,477	934,536
Sulphate Pulp .	161,167	342,238
Newsprint Paper	61,722	1,357,449

It will be seen that Sweden supplied more than one-third of the total imports of sulphite pulp into the U.S.A. last year. Canada's share was 367,753 tons, or about 41,000 tons more than was supplied by Sweden.

In sulphate pulp Sweden took a leading position, supplying about 50 per cent. of the total imports. Canada's contribution to the total under this heading was 140,000 tons, or some 20,000 tons less than was supplied by Sweden.

Newsprint paper was shipped from Sweden to the United States to the amount of 61,722 tons in 1924. In this respect, of course, Canada's position is well secured, and Canadian mills supplied last year 1,107,008 tons. Sweden, however, held the leading position for newsprint among the European countries, the total amount imported from Europe during the year being 156,600 tons, so that approximately 40 per cent. of this amount came from Swedish mills.

Opinions differ as to the probable duration of the lock-out, and no authentic information is available. It would seem likely, owing to the widespread nature of the trouble, that every effort would be made to bring about a settlement at the earliest possible date. On the other hand, it may be pointed out that discussion and negotiations have been carried on ever since early in the year without any agreement having been reached, and it may be that the employers are determined to try and make a lasting settlement of the labor troubles, which have been a feature of Swedish industrial life for some years past.

The labor troubles in Sweden have been brewing for some months and the lockout which is now in force was threatened as far back as February 1, but was postponed from time to time. The matter came to a head last Thursday, March 12, when the commission appointed by the government brought in arbitration proposals, which, events seem to show, were evidently refused by the workmen.

The wage contract expired on Feb. 1, and discussions on the schedule took place during January without a settlement being reached. Various arbitration proposals have been submitted since that time, none of which met with the approval of both sides, and the lockout was finally declared by the Swedish Employers' Association.

WESTERN LUMBER

The January statement of the Canadian Western Lumber Co. shows that lumber manufactured during the month amounted to 7,370,541 feet as compared with 7,692,308 feet for the same month in the previous year. Sales for the month amounting to 8,538,215 feet realized $196,195, which compares with 9,520,731 feet, realizing $267,687 for the same month in 1924.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Industrials, Utilities, etc.—	Bid	Asked
Brooks Steamer (1 pref, 2 com)	6½	9
Can. Machinery, com.	4	5
Can. Machinery, pref.	15	19
Canadian Oil, com.	38	41
Can. Westinghouse, com.	153	160
Cockshutt Plow, pref.	29	31
Dom. Comb. Mill (1 pref, 2 com)	40	55
Dom. Power, pref.	97½	99½
Durant (A)	5	6
Durant (B)	6	7
Durant (C)	7½	8½
English Electric, pref.	44	46
Famous Players, com.	14½	16
Famous Players, 8% pref.	73½	75
Gunns, Ltd., pref.	36	38
Imperial Tobacco	6¾	7¼
King Edward Hotel Deb. A.	67	69
King Edward Hotel Deb. B.	45	48
K. & S. Tire, pref.	9	12
Loew's Toronto, com.	30	33
Loew's London, com.	½	1½
Loew's Ottawa, pref.	18	22
Massey-Harris	40	43
Mount Royal Hotel, com.	3	3½
Mount Royal Hotel, pref.	31	32
North Mexico Power, com.	34	36
Manitoba Power, com.	19	21
Rickenbacker Motors	3	4½
Simpson, Robt., pref	97	98½
Western Grocers, pref.	36	38½
Cosgrave Brew.	6½	7½
Anglin Norcross	60	..
Dryden Paper	3	..
Paton Mfg., com.	48	50
United Securities, com.	56	60
United Securities, pref.	103	104
Loans and Insurance—		
Capital Life	21	24
Chartered Trust	75	85
Continental Life	31	35
London Loan	45	..
Manufacturers Life	59	51
Mortgage Discount, pref.	6	6¾
Monarch Life, 10% paid	15½	17
Peoples Loan	75	81
Sovereign Life	22	24
Western Assurance	7½	9

No Preferred Dividends on Cuban Canadian Sugar

MONTREAL.—Viewed from the angle of plant efficiency and economy of operation, Cuban Canadian Sugar Co. was probably never in a better position than it is to-day, but at the same time, this bettered position does not warrant any hopes for much increase in the earnings for the current year; for while there has been some recovery in the price of sugar since the debacle of 1921, yet it has not been such as to assure to any of the producers a much improved financial position. The company's output has been raised from 190,000 to 250,000 bags and the operation of their own railway to their own port ensures economical transportation.

The declaration of any dividends on the preferred would seem to be looking very far into the future, for the present these dividends are about 30 per cent. in arrears and the cane crop in Cuba has not been up to expectations. In size it was large enough, yet the sugar content of the cane proved to be low. All in all, the prospect for preferred dividends may be regarded as quite out of the question for some time to come.

POWER DISPUTE IS NOT YET SETTLED

Northern Canada Power Shareholders Are Disappointed Over News

A. J. Nesbitt, president Northern Canada Power, told shareholders that litigation with its big customer, Hollinger Mines, relating to the supply of power to the latter, is still unsettled. A deadlock has been reacted and it is possible that the final decision may be left to the Privy Council. It was taken for granted when Nesbitt Thompson formed the Canada Northern Power to take over the Northern Canada that a settlement of the litigation between the old company and Hollinger Consolidated was definitely in sight.

The litigation in question arose between the mine and power company with respect to the fulfillment of contracts. It passed through the Canadian courts and was on the point of going before the privy council last July. Then came the announcement that Nesbitt, Thompson had taken over Northern Canada Power to consummate which Nesbitt-Thompson issued $3,500,000 preferred shares of Canada Northern Power, 7 per cent. cumulative stock.

The point of interest to shareholders of the Northern Canada Power and Canada Power, is what will it mean to these companies if Hollinger carry their case to the privy council? One thing it means is that no settlement is in sight which assures the power company the Hollinger business. Mr. Nesbitt stated that something definite would be known within the next two or three weeks. The issues involved are of the greatest importance.

SIMPSON FINANCING AROUSES LIVELY INVESTMENT INTEREST

(Continued from page 1)

method of figuring being employed by those who delve into such matters is to add the proceeds of the bond issue, $5,600,000 to the surplus of $5,372,736 in the new company, a total of $10,972,736, as representing the value which was behind the common stock of the Robert Simpson Company—giving a figure around $327. Still another estimate is on the basis of $14,197,852 mentioned as security for the new issue which would represent over $420 a share on the old common.

Net Earnings High

The balance sheet of Simpsons, Ltd., shows total assets of $23,027,989, and the new bonds now issued will rank after the bonds and preferred stock of the constituent companies, leaving a surplus of assets as collateral security for the new issue of $14,197,852, against which there is a reserve of $3,225,116 for depreciation of fixed assets. It is pointed out that the average combined net earnings of the Robert Simpson Company and subsidiaries for the past three years, available for interest on the new bonds of Simpsons, Ltd., were $1,167,088, over three times the interest requirements for the issue now being made.

This issue has been underwritten so that financing is definitely arranged so far as the company is concerned.

The investor will be interested in considering the following details from the balance sheet of Simpsons, Ltd., as indicating how the new issue ranks in relation to the company's other obligations:

Liabilities	
Current liabilities	$2,929,911
Mortgages	418,165
First mortgage bonds	2,550,224
Preference shares	3,350,000
New bond issue	5,600,000
Capital and surplus reserve	3,225,116
New common stock	5,372,736
	$23,027,989

The assets of the new company are summarized as follows:

Assets	
Merchandise	$7,075,571
Accounts receivable	1,416,717
Advance payments	456,428
Cash	134,943
Bonds, etc.	165,887
Prepaid charges	673,334
Land and buildings	13,105,086
	$23,027,989

STOCK MOVEMENTS OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING MARCH 17

	Div. Rate	Yield Mar. 16	High for wk.	Low for wk.	Close Mar. 17	Close Mar. 10	Sales for wk.	Range 1925 High	Range 1925 Low
Banks—									
Commerce	12+1	6.39	208	200	202½	201	287	210	194½
Dominion	12+1	6.50	200¾	200	200¾	196¾	292	200½	189
Can. Nationale	10	6.66	150	148½	150	149	89	150½	148
Imperial	12+1	6.88	190	188	189	188½	245	193	188
Montreal	12+2	5.64	250	248½	250	248¾	271	250	245
Nova Scotia	16	5.96	268	265	268	266	12	268	263
Royal	12+2	5.98	236	235½	236	236	133	237	227½
Standard	12	6.97	173	171	172½	173	48	173	170
Toronto	12	6.03	200	199½	199½	199	53	221	192½
Union	8	7.11	114½	111	113	110½	242	114½	105
Paper—									
Abitibi, com.	4.00	6.01	66½	65½	66	66	2958	67	62
Do. pref.	7	6.51	..	..	..	107½	..	107½	101
Brompton Pulp	.	....	28½	26	26½	29	2665	33½	28½
Laurentide	6	7.18	83½	82	82	82¾	418	96½	81
Price Bros.	2	5.06	40½	38	38½	40½	305	40½	36
Prov. Paper, com.	6	6.25	..	..	..	96	..	97½	88½
Do. pref.	7	7.10	98½	98½	98½	100½	71	100½	95
Smith, Howard, com.	.	....	28	28	28	28	20	31	21½
Do. pref.	8	9.19	87½	86½	86¾	88½	35	89½	69½
Spanish River, com.	7	6.57	107	106	106½	107½	911	111½	87
Do. pref....7	7	5.84	121½	119	119	121½	140	127	112½
St. Maurice Paper	6	7.22	..	..	..	..	..	85½	83
Wayagamack	.	....	49	48	48	47	70	52	34½
Steel and Steel Industries—									
B. E. Steel, com.	.	....	3	2½	3	3	26	3½	2½
Do. 1st pref.	.	....	31½	31½	31½	30½	25	34	29
Do. 2nd pref.	.	....	11	8½	10½	8½	1548	11½	8
Can. Car & Found., com.	.	....	52½	49	49	52½	1710	57½	49
Do. pref.	7	8.14	86	85	85	86	152	90½	85
Can. Foundries, pref.	.	....	45	45	45	..	75	50	45
Canada Iron, com.	.	....	8	8	8	..	6	8	8
Do. pref.	.	....	35	35	35	35	6	35	35
Can. Locomotive, com.	4	5.97	..	..	..	..	..	72	64
Do. pref.	7	8.09	86½	86	86½	86	18	90	85
Dominion Coal	.	....	40	40	40	..	20	50	40
Dominion Iron, pref.	.	....	25	25	25	..	5	28	25
Dominion Radiator	7	6.96	100½	100½	100½	100½	13	102½	100½
Dominion Bridge	4	4.54	88½	88	88	88½	140	93	77½
Dom. Steel Corp., pref	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	38	36
N.S. Steel, com.	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	13	12½
Do. pref.	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	32	32
Ontario Steel, com.	4	9.24	..	..	..	..	[illegible]	53	43
Do. pref.	7	7.60	..	..	..	..	..	93½	91½
Steel of Canada, com.	7	8.43	83½	82	82	85½	1385	89	82
Do. pref.	7	6.42	109	108	109	110	53	112	105
Milling—									
Canada Bread, com.	4	3.67	110	108	109	110	345	125	98½
Do. pref.	7	6.66	105	105	105	105	49	105	102½
Inter. Milling, pref.	7	6.89	100½	100	100	100	52	102	99
Lake of Woods, com.	12	6.48	188	185	185	188	40	188	184
Do. pref.	7	5.60	..	..	..	..	..	125½	121
Maple Leaf, com.	.	....	87	86	86	85½	55	100	80
Do. pref.	7	6.93	101	100	100	100½	37	101	98
Ogilvie Flour, com.	12	2.67	150	147	147	148½	160	150	141½
Do. pref.	7	5.55	..	..	..	126	..	136	121
St. Lawrence Flour, com.	4	7.69	50	44	50	52	295	65	44
Do. pref.	7	7.44	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Western Can. Flour	8	7.40	108	108	108	..	15	110	107
Utilities—									
Bell Telephone	8	5.78	138¼	137	138	138	927	138¼	133
Consumers Gas	10	6.02	167	166	166	167½	84	170	164
Dom. Telegraph	6	6.00	50	50	50	49	46	50	38½
Kaministiquia	8	6.40	..	..	..	122	..	125	103
Mackay, com.	7	6.06	116	115	115½	115	191	117½	114½
Do. pref.	4	5.79	69	68	68½	68	445	69½	67½
Mexican Light, com.	.	....	24½	24	24	24½	325	24½	22
Do. pref.	.	....	62¼	62	62¼	61¼	35	62¼	57
Mont. L. H. & Pr. Cons.	7	3.97	178½	173	174½	173½	8089	178½	152
Montreal Telegraph	8	6.40	50	48	50	47½	8	55	45
Ottawa L. H. & Pr.	6	5.71	98½	98½	98½	100	10	105	98½
Do. pref.	6½	6.16	105½	104	104	105	55	105½	102¼
So. Can. Power, com.	1.00	....	72	71½	72	71½	83	72½	67
Do. pref.	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	121	120¼
Quebec Power, com.	.	....	87½	86	86½	87½	145	90	85
Do. pref.	7	6.66	..	..	..	105	..	105	105
Shawinigan	7	5.12	137	136	136½	136½	634	138½	103½
Transportation—									
Can. Pacific Rly.	10	6.78	149	146½	147	148½	236	152½	146½
Canada Steamships, com.	.	....	13	12½	13	12¼	245	13½	11
Do. pref.	.	....	46	43	45¼	45½	4243	50	43
Tractions—									
Barcelona	.	....	20½	19	19	21	75	23	19
Brazilian	4	7.44	53¼	52½	53½	54	2996	57½	52½
Detroit Un. Rly.	.	....	13	9	11½	16¼	5216	29	9
Duluth-Superior	.	....	40½	39½	39½	40½	240	42	35
Illinois Traction, pref.	6	6.52	92	92	92	..	10	93¼	92
Montreal Trams	10	6.06	165	165	165	169	50	173	165
Ottawa Traction	4+1	....	..	..	..	..	..	68½	62
Porto Rico Rly., com.	.	....	39½	39½	39½	39½	115	42	35½
Do. pref.	7	7.77	90	90	90	90	5	90	84
Quebec Rly.	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	22	22
Twin City, com.	4.00	6.25	65½	62½	63¼	65½	2569	67¼	58
Do. pref.	7	7.21	..	..	..	97	..	97	94½
Winnipeg Elec., com.	1	....	44	40½	41½	44½	3325	47½	35½
Do. pref.	7	7.14	98	95½	95½	98	420	98	88
Textiles—									
Can. Conn. Cotton, pref.	8	....	46	46	46	48	5	50	46
Can. Converters	7	8.43	83½	81	82½	84	172	87	80
Can. Cotton, com.	8	7.40	..	..	..	108	..	112	106
Do. pref.	6	6.66	..	..	..	..	..	92	90
Can. Woollens, com.	.	....	11½	11	11½	..	35	14½	5
Do. pref.	.	....	50	50	50	48	5	50	40
Dom. Textile, com.	4.00	5.75	70½	68½	68½	70½	345	90	66
Do. pref.	7	6.08	116	115	116	..	11	116	111
Monarch Knitting, com.			..	..	..	..	..	30	30
Do. pref.	7	10.00	..	..	..	..	..	80	70
Montreal Cotton, com.	6	6.12	..	..	..	98½	..	99	95
Do. pref.	7	6.20	..	..	..	112½	..	121	109
Penmans, com.	8	5.51	145	144	144	146	25	156	145
Do. pref.	6	6.00	..	..	..	..	..	100	100
Wabasso Cotton	4.00	6.66	..	..	..	..	..	60	56
General Industrials—									
Amer. Salesbook, com.	4.00	9.80	48½	41	43	41	200	48½	38
Do. pref.	7	7.52	98	91½	98	98	164	98	90
Asbestos, com.	2	4.46	44½	44	44	41	705	45½	38
Do. pref.	6	6.85	89	88	87½	83	1218	89	78½
Atlantic Sugar, com.	.	....	26	21½	26	25½	4616	37½	18
Do. pref.	.	....	65½	63½	65½	66	865	82	48
Bird & Son, pref.	7	8.48	..	..	..	..	..	88	80½
B.C. Fishing	.	....	29½	24½	26½	30	1483	34½	19
Burt, F. N., com.	10	5.40	190½	179	183	180	1131	190½	140
Do. pref.	7	3.78	185	179	179	168	26	185	142½
Canada Cement, com.	6	5.76	105½	103½	103½	106½	180	110½	90½
Do. pref.	7	6.14	114½	114	114	112½	259	114½	107
Cons. Rubber, pref.	7	8.14	..	..	..	..	..	90	86
Can. Gen. Electric, com	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	54	54
Do. pref.	7	6.60	54	53	52	53½	150	60	52½
Can. Indust. Alcohol	1.28	6.92	18	17½	17½	18	1071	20½	17½
Canada Salt	8	6.95	115	112	115	..	119	116½	112
Carr. Factories, com.	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	2½	1
City Dairy, com.	12	3.57	87½	80½	84½	80½	671	87½	65
Do. pref.	7	6.36	..	..	..	110	..	110	105
Crows Nest Coal	6	14.00	40	35	40	..	64	49½	38
Cuban Can. Sugar, com.	.	....	7½	7½	7½	8½	90	10	7
Do. pref.	.	....	40	40	40	42½	25	44	35
Dom. Canners, com.	.	....	95	90	92	94½	577	100½	86½
Do. pref.	7	7.05	100	98	99½	98½	594	100½	94
Dominion Glass, com.	7	6.19	118	111	111	114	80	116½	112½
Do. pref.	7	6.31	..	..	..	..	..	112	110½
Dominion Stores, com.	1.00	....	33½	33	33	33½	110	34	28½
Do. pref.	8	7.92	101	100	100	100	20	100	71½
Davies, Wm. (A)	.	....	29	25	28½	..	380	32	24
Eastern Theatres, com.	.	....	14	14	14	..	5	15	14
Do. pref.	7	9.21	76	76	76	75	3	76	73½
Ford Motor	.	....	512	512	512	..	1	512	512
Goodwins, com.	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	15	15
Do. pref.	7	9.33	..	..	..	..	..	75	75
Goodyear Tire, pref.	7	7.03	99½	98½	98½	99½	204	100½	90
Holt Renfrew, pref.	.	....	80	80	80	..	21	80	65
King Ed. Hotel	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	26	20
Lyall Construction	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	26½	11
Macdonald, A.	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	11½	4½
National Brew., com.	4.00	7.84	52½	50	52	53½	7816	68	51
Do. pref.	7	6.60	106	106	106	106	5	106½	105½
Pacific Burt, com.	6	6.38	95	94	94	95	76	96	94
Do. pref.	7	6.60	106½	106	106	104	30	107	103
Port Hope Sanitary, com.	.	....	58½	58	58½	58	202	60	58
Do. pref.	7	7.86	89	89	89	90	10	91	88½
Rogers, Wm. A., com.	.	....	61	60	60½	61	361	65	59½
Do. pref.	7	7.44	94	94	94	95	78	95	90
Russell Motor, com.	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	28	28
Do. pref.	7	8.64	81	81	81	81	10	82	74½
Sawyer-Massey, pref.	.	....	10	10	10	9	50	10	8
Sherwin-Williams, com.	6	4.71	129	127½	127½	129	125	130	115
Do. pref.	7	6.42	109	108½	108½	108	21	110	104½
Sterling Coal	4	7.69	52	52	52	52	10	53	49
Tooke Bros., pref.	.	....	45	45	45	..	16	45	37
Tuckett Tobacco, com.	4	6.06	66	66	66	67	45	70	59
Do. pref.	7	6.93	101½	101	101	101	65	102½	96½
Woods Mfg., com.	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	49	20
Do. pref.	7	9.39	74½	74½	74½	70	35	88	70
Pure Gold	50c.	....	25	24½	24½	25	51	25½	24½
Trust and Loan—									
Canada Landed	10	5.88	85	85	85	86½	3	88	80
Can. Permanent	12	6.06	198	197½	198	200	13	200	190
Hamilton Prov.	10	6.66	..	..	..	..	..	20	20
Huron & Erie	.	....	125	125	125	..	51	125	123
Montreal Loan	12+1	7.21	..	..	..	..	..	45	45
National Trust	12	5.40	..	..	..	222	..	233	210
Ontario Loan	12	6.00	100	100	100	..	10	100	100
Real Estate Loan	7	7.86	..	..	..	..	..	88	88
Toronto Gen. Trusts	12	5.66	..	..	..	212	..	212	211
Toronto Mortgage	10	5.69	..	..	..	..	..	90	90
Union Trust	7	8.28	..	..	..	..	..	80½	80½

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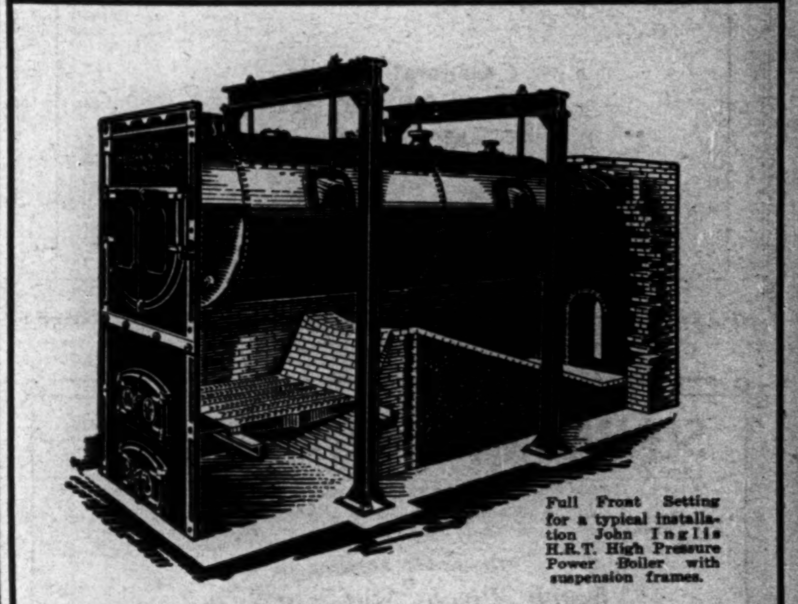
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Public Utilities

NET EARNINGS OF PORTO RICO ARE UP MATERIALLY

Generous Amounts Added to Reserves, Depreciation and Surplus

Porto Rico Railway earnings for the past year show a material increase, $111,000 over 1923. The true situation is not apparent at first glance at the statement, owing to a difference in the method of compiling the report. That of 1924 shows operating profit, after depreciation, of $420,872 as compared with $447,320 for 1923, but before depreciation. To place the two on a parity, the addition of the difference between depreciation account last year and this, $140,126, should be added to operating profits which makes the totals stand, 1924, $544,514; 1923, $433,354. Last year the company set aside but $100,000 for depreciation, while this year in addition to adding $140,125 to general depreciation, $130,000 was added to various reserves. These items included $75,000 to contingent reserve, bringing it up to $125,000; $28,000 to Comerio Reserve, total $50,000; $27,000 tax reserve, total $21,441 and in addition there are two other reserves of $28,377 of a total of $224,818, while depreciation account now stands at $1,538,552.

The improvement in earnings is reflected in the statistical statement which accompanies the report. It shows that expenses per cent. of operation was 60.54 per cent. as compared with 67.27 per cent. last year while after taxes are deducted these totals stand at 55.64 and 61.50 respectively. The increase in revenue is due to the sale of power. This fact is shown by the same statement. The railway suffered materially from jitney competition, as evidenced by the following figures on the passengers carried:

	1924	1923
Passengers carried	3,935,713	5,103,186
" Cars, miles	1,09,260	1,165,838
" Earn., per car mile	.1796	.2192

Freight business showed an increase of 5,500 tons.

The improvement in the power and light business is reflected in the statistics on that service which follows:

	1924	1923
Municipal Lamps	5,961	5,550
Comm. Lamps	168,482	163,652
Appliances	19,046	18,491
Comm. Motors	8,326	7,858
Fans	2,371	2,258
Total load (50-watt. equiv.)	471,973	440,992

President W. D. Ross, in touching on the question of reserves, makes the point that the Comerio Reservoir expenditure will sooner or later have to be undertaken in order to restore and maintain the storage capacity. During the year the outstanding first mortgage bonds were reduced $61,000 in compliance with the trust deed, making total redemption $728,500 and leaving outstanding in all $1,289,667 out of $3,000,000, others being escrow and the treasury. At the same time the company anticipated sinking fund requirements for the current year by the purchase of $21,500 first mortgage bonds which cost $18,812, representing an additional improvement in the working position. Capital account expenditure during the year was $164,644, largely composed of improvements and additions in the lighting and power branch.

While surplus was increased during the year to $691,494, there was also a $59.045 betterment in working capital. The figures for the past two years follow:

	1924	1923
Current assets	565,444	453,628
Current liab.	294,955	242,184
Working Capital	$270,489	$211,444

A reconstructed profit and loss account is given below. It differs from the report of the company, as it shows operating profit for the year before depreciation, thus enabling comparison with the 1923 report:

	1924	1923
Operating Profits	$544,514	$433,354
Other income	16,484	13,966
	560,998	447,320
Depreciation	140,126	100,000
	420,872	347,320
Bond interest	180,600	183,504
Reserves	130,000	....
	110,272	163,816
Pref. Div.	70,00	70,000
	40,272	93,81?
Bal. forward	651,222	557,405
Surplus	$691,494	$651,221

Southern Canada Power Net Earnings Up $1,837

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL.—The monthly statement of earnings of the Southern Canada Power shows an increase of nearly $2,000 for February compared with a year ago. The statement also shows that earnings for the first five months of the current fiscal year increased $8,861.

The figures follow:

February—	1925	1924	Inc.
Gross earn.	$ 99,134	$ 94,045	$ 5,089
Oper. exp.	45,134	41,758	3,252
Net earn.	$ 54,124	$ 52.287	$ 1,837
Five Months—	1925	1924	Inc.
Gross earn.	$480.701	$444,127	$ 36,574
Oper. exp.	223,115	195,402	27,713
Net earnings ..	$257,586	$248,725	$ 8,861

To Instal Additional Unit For Winnipeg Hydro System

WINNIPEG.—Installation of the second 7,500 h.p. unit for additional development of the Point du Bois plant will be started early in May at a cost of approximately $110,000, according to J. W. Sanger, chief engineer of the Winnipeg Hydro-Electric System. In 1923 a three-year programme of new work was authorized for Point du Bois, to be carried on at the rate of one unit installation a year. Tenders were called for construction of the three units, however, and the order placed with Vickers, Ltd., England, for turbines, and with the Swedish General Electric Co. for generators, the total cost being approximately $110,000 a unit. The first part of the work was completed last year, the second unit will be installed this year, and in 1926 the development will be completed.

D.U.R. MAY YET WORK OUT POSITION

Absentee Ownership Showed Inability to Grasp Its Real Opportunity

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL.—A statement to show the position of Detroit United Railways at the time it went into the hands of the receivers, will be issued to the shareholders in a few weeks. One of the receivers, Joseph W. Simard, Montreal, has made the definite prophecy that the company will again be under private control in a few months. He bases his statement on the fact that the directors have a scheme which will once again put the company on its feet. This plan of procedure has not been made public yet. Another thing which makes for an improvement in the position of the company is the fact that Detroit automotive industry is settling down to steady operation. Last year, many plants were either working half time or closed down entirely. The demand for cars and trucks has absorbed stocks on hand, and it is expected that there will be a better, and a more even distribution of employment for the remainder of the current year.

Boston News Bureau says the receivership is the result of adding quickly changing transportation conditions to an already incongruous mixture of politics and absentee ownership. Since sale of City Lines to the city two years ago Detroit United, except for a limited amount of freight, has been strictly an interurban and commuters' service. There has been no big city line earning bulk to cushion against. It has been a clear issue of whether electric rail service could compete with motor buses and autos.

"About a year ago Detroit United began to buy motor bus lines and instal its own buses parallel to its electric lines where riders showed a preference for motor transportation. Commendable work has been done toward building up a system of motor lines both feeding and supplementing the electrics. But it was rather a late start. Few large American cities depend so largely on individual motor transportation as Detroit. Where ten years ago the city expanded along the interurban lines and provided electric traffic, motor bus and private auto have made it possible to develop suburban real estate which has no rail service of any kind.

"There is not a single commuter train out of Detroit on any steam road. Even Michigan Central, with an unused downtown train shed and a string of logical commuter towns toward Ann Arbor, has done nothing to develop suburban business and refuses to instal commuter service or give commuter rates.

"It is estimated 46 per cent. of the Ford workmen go to and from work in their own cars or in cars jointly owned, and that another 20 per cent. ride in buses, while only 30 per cent. use either city traction or interurban. Expanding use of gasoline motors began just when Detroit United needed traffic most.

"The receivership is viewed in banking circles as serving a good end in that it will permit a rearrangement of finances and probably new capital acquisitions which will insure carrying out the motor bus program, possibilities of which, in an area of 100 square miles having about 1,300,000 population without steam commuter service of any kind, are hardly sounded. Statement to stockholders is subject to criticism in one respect: instead of slack Detroit business being responsible for receivership, the trouble is due more to the road's inability to quickly avail itself of the kind of facilities now in demand.

"Bankers who have been in intimate touch with the road's finances believe that with proper capital changes the road cannot help but work out of its difficulties."

Northern Canada Power Issues Annual Statement

From Our Own Correspondent

MONTREAL.—The annual report of the Northern Canada Power for 1924 shows net profits of $285,347. This includes two subsidiaries, Lower Sturgeon Power Co., and the Quinze Power Co. After allowing for interest, depreciation and all other charges, there remained $413,084 to meet the bond interest which amounted to $282,332. Of this bond interest, $154,596 was deducted from the expenditures of the year and charged to construction account.

The amount brought forward from the preceding year was $1,094,681, consisting of an operating surplus of $512,888. The surplus for 1924 brought the total to $1,380,028, from which was deducted $327,170 for interest, taxes, legal fees, etc., leaving a balance of $1,052,858. Total assets, are $12,993,807.

Public Utility Earnings

Barcelona Traction

January—	1925 Pesetas	1924 Pesetas	Change
Gross Earn. .	7,922,049	7,161,168	+760,881
Oper. Exp. ..	2,301,906	2,344,062	— 42,156
Net Earn.. ..	5,620,143	4,817,106	+803,037

Winnipeg Electric

January—	1924	1924	Change
Gross Earn.	$509,194	$505,114	—$4,080
Expenses	344,651	327,654	—16,997
Net earnings	164,543	177,460	+12,917

Canadian Western Gas

	Last Year	Pres. Year	Incr.
October	$59,028	$76,052	$17,024
November	96,570	138,275	41,705
December	105,110	182,909	77,799
January	148,965	163,953	14,988
Aggr. Earn. from 1st Oct. to 31st Jan.	$409,673	$561,189	$151,516

B. C. Electric Railway

Jan.—	1924	1925	Increase
Gross Earn.	$ 983,176	$1,039,316	$ 56,140
Exp., Maint., etc.	666,386	710,200	43,814
Net Inc.	$ 316,790	$ 329,116	$ 12,326
Agg. Gross from July 1st, 1924, to 31st Jan., 1925	$6,287,688	$6,569,498	$ 281,810
Agg. Net from July 1st, 1924, to 31st Jan., 1925	$1,895,479	$1,928,416	$ 32,937

Jamaica Public Service

January—	1925	1924	Increase
Gross Earn.	$54,223	$50,087	$ 4,136
Oper. Exp. & Taxes	32,570	32,868	x297
Net Earn.	21,653	17,218	4,434
Int. Charges	6,821	5,369	1,451
Bal. for Res. Retire. & Div...	$14,831	$11,849	$ 2,982

xDecrease.

12 Months ending January 31, 1925—	
Gross Earnings	$583,192
Operating Exp. & Taxes............	392,106
Net Earnings	191,085
Interest Charges	78,449
Bal. for Res., Retire., and Div.......	$112,636

Beck Don't Approve of London Ry. Negotiations

Sir Adam Beck is said to be ill in Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, but is not too ill to be unable to maintain his role as dictator to the city council of London, Ont. The council and street railway have been trying to come to an agreement on the fares question. The city wants service maintained and the company to guarantee certain pavement expenditure in exchange for permission to charge a 5-cent fare. The company says it cannot operate at the old fares. The last legislature took this view and increased the old schedule to a straight five-cent fare for a year. The company opposes expenditure on paving account on a one-year agreement. It has not the money and cannot borrow when its revenues are subject to possible reduction after one year. While negotiations are on, Sir Adam writes the council, gently chiding the mayor and aldermen for weakening. He threatens that he will employ every means at his disposal to force the company to carry passengers at seven and nine tickets for 25 cents. Toronto and Windsor, Beck-promoted systems, give four tickets for 25 cents.

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Newsprint Paper

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Russell Motor Enjoys Very Strong Position

Some interesting views on the position of Russell Motor preferred are going the rounds. The company has steadily improved since it threw overboard the Willys-Overland operation and focused the full power of its effort on other subsidiaries. Of the latter the most interesting and profitable has been Canada Cycle, the operations of which alone are said to be profitable enough to more than take care of the Russell preferred dividends. Russell Gear and Machine has been doing well and since it absorbed the Montreal plant of its chief competitor, a U. S. company, even better results have been obtained. The Russell Co. some time ago wrote its holdings in Willys-Overland away down. The American company which owns the balance of the stock, has maintained the company and is said to be doing fairly well and in the end might work out to some advantage of the Russell Co., although the auto industry has reached the time when keen competition is forcing down prices and reducing profits to a very close margin.

Pulp and Paper

MATTAGAMI HAS MUCH IMPROVED OUTLOOK AHEAD

May Spend $300,000 to Produce Bleached Pulp Product

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL.—Under the direction of the receiver, Mattagami Pulp and Paper plant at Smooth Rock Falls is operating twenty-four hours a day at full capacity. The mill was originally estimated to have a capacity of 150 tons, but during the month of February production averaged 190 tons a day. There are sufficient orders to ensure working full time until towards the end of April. The entire production is going to the United States; there is no accumulation of sulphite pulp stock at the plant beyond two or three hundred tons which were stored during the winter, owing to the adverse weather conditions which prevented its free movement.

S. R. Armstrong, acting for the receivers and general supervisor, says no effort had been made to close business for May, as it was hoped that in the interval, markets would improve. The company had still to contend with adverse markets and low prices. The prevailing price for unbleached sulphite pulp at approximately $60 per ton represented a decline of about $10 from the price which prevailed two years ago. Present prices ruled fairly steadily throughout 1924. But even with the low prices for sulphite pulp, the company is able to show a moderate profit after operating charges.

The sulphite pulp mills of Canada are in active competition with Swedish producers who appear able to lay down their product in United States markets at a price which embarrasses Canadian operators. Imports of the Swedish product into the United States have been growing rapidly. In 1924 records show that 175,000 tons more were bought than in 1923, while the Canadian producers managed to show an increase of 35,000 tons only. The situation has been further aggravated this winter by the fact that the Baltic Sea has been free of ice practically all winter long, and pulp shipments from Baltic ports have continued without cessation. This is an almost unprecedented situation, and this continuous movement of pulp has reacted adversely upon markets.

A much better market exists for bleached than unbleached pulp. Consequently there is a price difference of several dollars per ton. Mattagami produced unbleached only, but in the opinion of Mr. Armstrong the only solution of the company's and bondholders' difficulties lay in equipping it to produce the bleached product, and in this direction he is working. To equip the mill as a producer of bleached pulp an outlay of $300,000 was necessary, but he estimated that with production unimpaired the increased revenues derived from bleached pulp would in one year more than cover this entire outlay.

The company has expended the sum of $700,000 in the purchase of pulpwood during the winter, the great bulk of this money being distributed among the settlers of the north country. The company has a woodpile on its property containing some 55,000 cords, sufficient to supply the mill for the next six months. At present rate of production the mill uses up 120,000 cords a year. Production in 1924 was 53,000 tons of sulphite pulp on which the company did fairly well in the face of the adverse market conditions. A fund of $500,000 has been accumulated from revenues since the receiver took charge, which has been placed to the account of the creditors.

WHALEN SALE FIXED BY COURT AS MAY 29

Debenture Holders May Get Up to 45 Cents on the Dollar

From Our Own Correspondent

VANCOUVER. — A court order has been made by Mr. Justice Morrison for the sale on May 29 of the assets of the Whalen Pulp & Paper Mills, Ltd., with plants at Port Alice, Ocean Falls and Swanson Bay. This is believed to mark the final step in the litigation which has pursued the company ever since it was placed in the hands of a receiver eighteen months ago.

The total valuation placed on the property is $7,829,000. The obligations are said to approximate over $10,000,000. Four million dollars are due bondholders and other preferred creditors, and if the full valuation is realized by the sale the debenture stockholders will receive about forty-five cents on the dollar. Unsecured creditors of the company are threatened with a loss of about a million dollars.

The order for sale was made on the application of A. H. Douglas, representing the bondholders. F. G. T. Lucas opposed the application on behalf of creditors representing about $15,000. The Whalen Co. was organized by Whalen brothers, formerly of Port Arthur, about 15 years ago and was one of the largest of its kind in Western Canada and the only one operating more than two mills. It has large holdings of timber and operates a large shingle mill in connection with its plants.

Financial difficulties have pursued the company ever since the war. Development of trans-Pacific trade was expected to be an important agency in putting it on a sound footing, but the decline of the Japanese market was a contributing factor in its failure to restore its credit.

Bond Issue of A. P. W. Company Will Be Sold

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL.—More additions to the Canadian output of pulp are indicated in the news that the A. P. W. Pulp and Power Co., will issue $800,000 of 7 per cent., sinking fund bonds in the United States.

The company is a subsidiary of the largest tissue paper manufacturers in the United States—the A. P. W. Paper Company, with properties at Sheet Harbor, N.S., about seventy miles northeast of Halifax. The establishment includes a newly completed mill, machine and carpenter shop, administrative building and houses for employees.

The company owns in fee 54,000 acres of timber lands and has long time favorable leases on 17,600 additional acres.

Paper Company Starts About Middle of 1925

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL.—It is anticipated that the new mills of the Newfoundland Power and Paper Co., will be in operation by the middle of this year. Construction work has been under way since 1922. Railway yards have been installed and there are employed some 8,000. When the construction gangs leave, Cornerbrook will remain a town of about 6,000. It will be run by the company. When completed the normal capacity of the plant will be 400 tons of newsprint per day. There are four machines, each of a 100 tons capacity and built for a width of 234 inches. These machines are designed for a maximum speed of 1,200 feet per minute, but the operating speed will be about 900.

The raw material is on the spot. The company have the timber rights for over 2,000,000 acres which will yield at least 50 years' supply. It will require 120 tons of sulphite and 360 tons of ground wood daily to feed the machines.

INTERNATIONAL PLANT FOR NEW BRUNSWICK

Company Has Heavy Timber Rights But Cannot Export

From Our Own Correspondent

MONTREAL.—President Graustein of International Paper is in Fredericton discussing with the provincial government the terms under which the province may take over some of the rights, leases and properties of the company which are situated on the St. John River and stretch from Grand Falls to Van Buren, Me. The provincial government is considering hydro-electric development at Grand Falls on property controlled by the company.

P. T. Dodge, former International president, said several years ago that the company's actual cost outlay on these projects was then $1,100,000, so that on the settlement the amount discussed will likely be $1,500,000.

There are rumors that the company has completed plans for an elaborate industrial project in connection with their subsidiary, Canadian International, which will take over the old Riordon interests. It is thought that this move on the part of International Paper Co. presages a slow movement of the company's endeavors into Canada, so that they may be nearer to both the raw material and the power supply. According to the reports, one of the International's plants will be located in Newfoundland. In this connection it might be pointed out that two of its subsidiaries, Dalhousie Lumber Co., and the Miramichi Lumber Co., hold the leases upon 1,158 square miles of crown lands in New Brunswick, but pulpwood cut off these lands, like that from the publicly owned lands of Ontario and Quebec, cannot be exported and must be manufactured in this country.

PULP AND PAPER MARKETS STRONGER

Increased Canadian Output in January Was Nearly All Absorbed

From Our Own Correspondent

MONTREAL.—The American market for pulp and paper shows signs of strengthening. During December last, Canadian exports of kraft were $328,000 or up $142,000 from the previous year. Exports of pulpwood to the United States during January, were up 50,000 cords, total exports being 129,405 cords.

The demand for newsprint continues strong. Newsprint production in the United States for January was slightly less than for the same period last year, while that of Canadian mills was 10 per cent. more. The combined output of the United States and Canadian mills was over 250,000 tons, with shipments slightly less than production, and mill stocks the highest for the initial period of any year since 1921.

There are several things which may have affected the demand for pulpwood in the States following an improvement in business, the demand for newsprint may have shown an increase or, it is possible, that American publishers may have become frightened at the action of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association in definitely declaring themselves on the question of pulpwood exports, and decided to lay in larger stocks. There is also the possibility of a scarcity of pulp from Sweden due to the action of the pulp workers there declaring a strike on March 16. In the States the demand for book paper is steady and the market is strong.

Demand for newsprint shows no signs of weakening. Canadian newsprint men feel that by July, with the output increasing in the way that it is doing, there may be a decided falling off in demand with consequently a possible further drop in prices. To mention only one increase in the number of producers, Newfoundland will be putting out over 400 tons a day more newsprint and practically all of this output will go to the American market.

NEWSPRINT OUTPUT LARGER THAN U.S.

Dominion Production for the First Time Takes the Lead

From Our Own Correspondent

MONTREAL.—In February Canada's newsprint production for the first time exceeded that of the United States. Production from the Canadian mills was 115,624 tons, United States production, 113,831 tons.

Production, both in the United States and here, fell off during the month, but this was due to the shorter number of days. The average daily Canadian production was 150 tons greater than in January.

Production for the first two months of this year follows:

	Canada	U.S.A.	Total Tons
January	121,420	128,784	250,204
February	115,624	113,831	229,451

These figures show an increase of 6 per cent., or 14,197 tons higher than in the corresponding period of 1924, while the figures of production in the States show a decline of 6,621 tons, or 3 per cent. These are the figures for the two months' period:

	Canada	U.S.A.	Total Tons
2 Months, 1925 ...	237,044	242,615	479,659
2 Months, 1924 ...	222,847	249,236	472,083
2 Months, 1923 ...	191,523	242,063	433,586

FOUR B.C. CANNING PLANTS ARE SOLD

Imperial Economic Committee May Advertise B.C. Salmon in Britain

From Our Own Correspondent

VANCOUVER.—British Columbia cannery interests welcome the report that the Imperial Economic Committee in London is seriously considering the advisability of spending a substantial portion of the annual British government marketing grant of $5,000,000 on the advertising and promotion of this province's canned salmon in the United Kingdom market. Under present conditions, although large quantities of canned salmon packed by British Columbia plants are being sold in Great Britain, the product is forced to compete with the Siberian pack, which recently has been able to undersell the Canadian product. The main purpose of the British government's grant is to improve marketing facilities for dominion products in Great Britain and it is felt that the money could not be spent more advantageously than in the advertising of canned salmon.

One of the most important cannery deals was transacted a few days ago when the Canadian Fishing Co., a subsidiary of the New England Fish Co., took over the four plants of the Kildala Packing Co., a pioneer in the British Columbia field. The Canadian Fishing Co., headed by Alvah Hager, now has ten canneries under its control in this province. The deal marks the retirement of the Dawson interests, who owned the Kaldala business, from the industry. It is twenty years since the company, headed by George W. Dawson, was organized.

The canneries figuring in the deal are the Carlisle, at the mouth of the Skeena River; the Manitou, on Dean Channel; Kildala, at Rivers Inlet, and Harlock, on the Fraser. Although the price paid is not divulged, it is known to run into seven figures.

Italy.—The temporary exemption from duty on cereals imported into Italy has been extended. This exemption was due to expire December 31, 1924.

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Dalley Corp. Net Profits Show 30 Per Cent. Jump

F. F. Dalley Corp., Hamilton, earned $629,000 net profits in 1924. This is a 30 per cent. increase over 1923. Operating profit was $904,266 and with $145,436 interest and $129,826 depreciation deducted left $629,000 as compared with $484,084 in 1923. After the payment of dividends on the first and second preferred stocks, and dividends on the preferred stocks of subsidiary companies in the hands of the public, a balance of $224,910 was carried to the surplus, which stood at $889,549 at the end of 1924, as against a total surplus of $664,639 at the end of 1923.

Current assets stand at $3,317,807, with current liabilities $415,232, or a ratio of eight to one. This shows net current assets of $2,902,575, or an increase of $374,409 over the total net at the end of 1923.

How Canada Benefits from Canadian Pacific Financing

ONE reason why Canadian Pacific traffic charges are low is that its capital charges are low.

Surplus earnings have been reinvested for betterments and improvements without being capitalized.

Surpluses of $31 per share of all its common stock have gone back into the railway, a total of $80,600,000.

This was a contribution, without interest, by the shareholders, otherwise the Company would have been forced to borrow this amount, thus adding to its bonded debt and permanently increasing its capital charges.

In addition to this the shareholders have contributed as premiums on the purchase of shares the sum of $31,200,000, equal to $12 per share on the whole common stock, which has been similarly employed, and costs neither the Company nor the public one dollar in capital charges.

If other amounts similarly appropriated were added to the surpluses and premiums, an increase of not less than $240,000,000 might properly be made in the capital of the Company, the interest on which would form a permanent charge on the Company's traffic.

The Canadian public has profited by the Company's expenditure of $68,000,000 for immigration, settlement and irrigation projects.

Moreover, the Canadian Pacific is the largest individual taxpayer in Canada. Its contribution in taxes to the public treasury in a period of only five years (1919 to 1923, inclusive) being $31,666,000.

Thus the Canadian Pacific, which directly and indirectly has been the greatest force in building up the country, has cost Canada nothing.

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C. B. STEVENSON, Miner, New Liskeard, General Manager and Secretary-Treasurer

News of the Mines for the Investor

RECENT GAINS IN MINING SHARES ARE ABOUT WIPED OUT

Market Sags and Assumes Quite a Listless Tendency

The mining market has suffered from the break in the general markets and is quite lifeless. The tendency of stocks is downward although for the most part, the recent gains have all been wiped out and the market is now at a level which some weeks ago was considered "rock-bottom." This latter does not necessarily apply now and the tendency for the present, in the absence of any sign of a rally, would seem to continue downward.

There has been little news of extraordinary importance come out of the north. The break in Dome passed off. It was one of the usual. There came the advance couriers, rumors of various kinds about the property and that the $2 annual dividend was in jeopardy, etc., and so the price gave and later recovered most of the loss. In the meantime there was some cheap stock picked up.

The weakness in Hollinger should perhaps be taken a little more serious. It is a result of the power situation. The sale of the Northern Canada Power, it was figured, was designed to solve this problem and let the different factions out gracefully and, incidentally end the costly litigation that had been going on. News from Montreal is to the effect that this has not had the clear sailing that was expected and for the time being there is a state of deadlock, which, if it continues, will have the result of forcing ahead of the appeals of both the power and mining company to the Privy Council. The power situation and the prospect of a settlement is undoubtedly delaying the annual meeting of Hollinger. There have been hopes that dividend action would be taken at the meeting, but it is to be seriously doubted if anything of this nature will transpire if the settlement does not come before the meeting.

The advances in the numerous low priced silvers which carried them to levels which seemed unwarranted by the progress being made, have, in a measure, been wiped out and prices are now at points more or less warranted by the developments on the properties. This is true of La Rose which is back at 38 as compared with a high of 52 and McKinley-Darragh at 30 compared with 42 high. Crown Reserve has been quite weak, selling down to 40. Vipond is off again at 120. There is some disappointment felt at the slowness of the news in regard to new milling plans and in the absence of such news there is a feeling being fostered in some quarters that the shares are selling out of line. Wright-Hargreaves and Lake Shore are holding their position well Tough Oakes has weakened a couple of points. Little news is coming out from the mines, being in striking contrast to the situation that existed a year ago when information was circulated almost daily.

Premier Mine Had an Increase in Production

Premier Gold Mines, Portland Canal, B. C., production increased in 1924. The figures:

	1924	1923
Gold (ozs.)	139,288	117,294
Silver (ozs.)	3,015,382	2,746,551
Lead (lbs.)	452,010	62,191

Broken ore reserves stand at 147,880, compared with 93,000 at the end of 1923, and the estimated content is .55 ozs. gold, 17.3 ozs. silver or $21.38 per ton. H. A. Guess, vice-president and managing director, states that a conservative estimate of the assured and probable unbroken ore down to the fourth level of the present mine working is 420,000 tons, averaging .54 ounces of gold and 14.1 ounces of silver per ton, which represents a gross value of $19.26 per ton, estimating gold at $20 an ounce and silver at 60c. an ounce. In addition to this, there is a considerable tonnage of ore developed above the fourth level, or, rather, complete mineralization, and slightly below the profitable grade at present milling capacity, which, later on, it may become possible to treat at a profit. There has been indicated by the diamond drilling so far done below the fourth level 146,000 tons, averaging .39 ounces of gold and 3.2 ounces of silver per ton.

Income in the year was $3,857,328 and operating and miscellaneous expenses were $1,082,783, and earnings from mine operation were $2,774,544. After deducting miscellaneous losses the mine showed total earnings of $2,721,605. Deductions included $7,365 for administration expenses, $188,932 for taxes, $159,555 for depreciation, and $1,277,577 for depletion. The balance of profits available for dividends was $1,088,174.

Although dividends of 34 per cent., totalling $1,715,000 were paid, as against the smaller apparent balance of profits available for dividends, as noted above, the company says it earned its dividends by a comfortable margin.

KEELEY'S LIQUID ASSETS

A condensed statement of the financial affairs of Keeley Silver Mines, Ltd., is being issued along with the current dividend. The company showed cash in banks and on hand at mine, $317,570. The Dominion and provincial bonds, accrued interest and appreciations, $670,541; estimated net receipts due from smelter, ore in transit, on hand or in process at mine and mill, $230,857. The liquid assets of the company are shown to reach a total of $1,218,970.

B. C. MINES SOLD

NELSON, B.C. — A cablegram from London announces the purchase of the Dundee Mine at Ymir, B.C., from R. S. Linnie, Vancouver, and of Yankee Girl Mine at Ymir from the Texas-Yankee Girl Mining Co., by the British-American and Foreign Corporation for $750,000, this figure including provision of a mill and further power developments.

Cadillac Find Traced Now for Over a Mile

An important find has been made on the Thompson lots adjoining the O'Brien in Cadillac Township, Que. The continuation of the vein on the latter property has been picked up and very rich gold is visible. Trenching has traced it for 1,500 feet. O'Brien have over 1,500 feet proved up, and as there is 1,400 feet or more of low ground between this and the Thompson discovery, it means over a mile of vein, and to the west, the Graham properties also have a vein uncovered, which is undoubtedly the same.

Province of Quebec to Have Iron Ore Bounty

MONTREAL.—Hon. J. E. Perrault, Minister of Mines, has a bill before the Quebec legislature to provide a bounty of forty cents per ton on iron ore produced in the province. Ontario pays twenty-five cents per ton, but the minister explained that the mining for iron was more difficult in Quebec than in Ontario, hence the need of extra encouragement.

Quebec Mine Tax Designed to Keep Smelter at Home

The Province of Quebec wants the smelter which will be erected to treat the gold-copper ores from the Horne property in Rouyn as well as any others, located within the province. This undoubtedly played an important part in the introduction of the new mines tax bill in the Quebec house. It provides a rate of taxation on profits made on ores treated in the province and trebles it if the ores are treated outside. There is also a proposal of the Duke interests associated with American Cyanamid to erect a smelter near Duke-Price power development and this may also have been a factor.

The profits tax follows:

$100,000 to $ 1,000,000, 3 per cent.
$1,000,000 to $ 5,000,000, 5 per cent.
$5,000,000 to $10,000,000, 6 per cent.
$10,000,000 to $15,000,000, 7 per cent.

Above this, one per cent. for each additional $5,000,000.

When the smelting is done outside Quebec the rate is to be thrice the above.

Rates on asbestos mines are: Up to $500,000, 3 per cent.; $500,000 to $1,000,000, 5 per cent.; over $1,000,000, 8 per cent.

NORANDA IS ABOUT READY TO GO AHEAD

Will Increase Capital and Old Shareholders Have Right to Subscribe

Noranda proposes to increase its capital from one to two million by creating 10,000 new $100 shares and 4,600 will be offered shareholders at par on a basis of one new for two old held. This will give the company $460,000 and bring the treasury up to $668,992.

Pres. J. Y. Murdock in his report calls attention to the fact that railway facilities are now assured for the Horne property and Noranda is now in a position to proceed with plans to bring the property into production. This will of necessity occupy several months and until the plans are completed and the amount of capital required definitely determined, the directors do not think it would be in the best interests of the shareholders to decide upon the details of the complete financing. They recommend, therefore, the arranging of additional money for completion of the purchase of the Horne property, for further development and construction work and for the general purposes of the company, by an increase in the capital stock and offering a portion of the increased stock to present shareholders.

Managing Directors Chadbourne and Thompson, in outlining the development of the Horne into a developed mine, say that at the end of the year the shaft had been sunk 124 feet. A station was cut a depth of 106 feet, and 1,256 feet of drifting and cross-cutting has been completed. Number 1 shaft is located near the centre of what has been called No. 3 ore body, which occurs in a series of overlapping lenses. Lenses A, B, and C are partially developed by underground workings and based on the information, disclosed in these drifts and cross-cuts and from surface exposures and diamond drilling, their combined content and value to the 106-foot level are estimated at 239,000 tons containing 8.18 per cent. copper, $6.21 in gold, giving a value of $27.48 per ton and having a gross value of $6,567,000. Lense D has been cut by diamond drill holes. A continuous core of 131 feet gave values of $8.92 per ton in gold, silver and copper for 50 feet and $37.07 per ton across 81 feet.

Diamond drilling on No. 1 ore body has disclosed a considerable amount of commercial ore, about 1,100 feet northwest of No. 1 shaft. The four diamond drill cores in this area spaced in a length of 400 feet disclosed commercial ore running from $5.36 to $14.55 a ton. The diamond drilling results on lense "E," 350 feet east of No. 1 shaft, show values given at $11.78 and $25.58 in two parallel diamond drill holes, 100 feet apart.

The estimates of partially developed and probable ore at the end of 1924 is as follows: Ore partially developed 239,000 tons containing $6.21 in gold, 8.18 per cent. copper, having a gross value of $6,567,400, which is equivalent to $27.48 a ton. Additional ore indicated by drilling 372,500 tons containing $5.15 in gold, 4.04 per cent. copper, having gross value of $5,840,000, which is equivalent to $15.65 a ton. The total amount of partially developed and probable ore is given as 611,500 tons, containing $5.57 in gold, 5.66 per cent. copper, having a value of $12,407,400, which is equivalent to $20.29 a ton.

Diamond drilling on ore body "G" has shown indicated values running from $7.90 to $16.50 in gold, with no copper. This latter ore is understood to be free milling.

The financial statement shows cash expenditures for the year of $367,466 and other expenditures and charges $102,848. Total expenditure for the year amounted to $470,315. The balance sheet shows current assets of $235,031.

How the Market Values Mines

Below will be found some interesting figures, i.e., the value the stock market places on the various producing gold and silver mines. They are graded down. Some wide differences will be noted, especially among the new producing gold mines. Take Vipond, Night Hawk, C. W. Dome, Tough-Oakes and Argonaut and some wide variations will be found. Teck-Hughes, it will be seen, has a fairly high valuation for a mine that is yet to pay its first dividend. Lake Shore and Wright-Hargreaves are some distance apart, while the latter is nearly the same valuation as McIntyre. Dome stands ahead of McIntyre though the latter cannot estimate ore reserves and has a somewhat uncertain future, whereas McIntyre can boast of reserves of near the market value of the mine. It is also to be noted that the valuation of Hollinger is about equal the total of all the others put together, bond issues included.

During the past week Hollinger broke 35 points, reducing the valuation of the mine from $71,064,000, while Dome dropped $1 per share. Several others have also declined since the above table was made up, making the valuation of the mines, and its sudden fluctuations, all the more apparent.

In the silvers, Nipissing leads, Keeley and Mining Corp. stand close, although the latter, a non-dividend payer, has a half million edge on the other that is paying 24 per cent. yearly.

Stock	Present value	Shares issued	Par value	Market value
Hollinger	14.10	4,920,000	$5	$69,272,000
Dome	14.50	953,334	No P.	13,824,443
McIntyre	18.00	800,000	5	13,600,000
Wright-Hargreaves	4.75	2,750,000	1	13,200,000
Lake Shore	5.60	2,000,000	1	11,200,000
Teck-Hughes	1.48	4,505,144	1	6,667,643
Vipond	1.25	2,000,000	1	2,500,000
N. Hawk C.	.35	5,000,000	1	1,750,000
N. Hawk P.	...	300,000	1	300,000
Tough-Oakes	.36½	5,000,000	1	1,825,000
Argonaut	.38	3,910,357	1	1,485,935
Argonaut Bonds	...	250,000	..	250,000
C. W. Dome	.17¾	5,000,000	1	887,500
	(Silvers)			
Nipissing	6.30	1,200,000	5	7,560,000
Mining Corp.	2.80	1,660,050	5	4,648,140
Keeley	2.05	2,000,000	1	4,100,000
L. T. Lake	1.20	1,500,000	1	1,800,000
Castle	.85	2,000,000	1	1,700,000
*Castle, Pref.	...	200,000	1	200,000
McK.-Darargh	.40	2,247,692	1	899,076
LaRose	.43	1,500,000	1	645,000

MINING STOCK QUOTATIONS

WEEK ENDING MARCH 17

	Div. Rate	Yield Mar. 17	High for wk.	Low for wk.	Close Mar. 17	Close Mar. 10	Sales for wk.	Range 1925 High	Range 1925 Low
Apex	..	....	3	2¾	3	3	2500	6	2½
Algonquin	..	....	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	2¼	1000	2¼	1
Argonaut	..	....	39	32½	33½	38	66000	48	29
Atlas	..	....	4½	4	4	4	22000	5	3¾
Baldwin	..	....	5½	5	5	5¼	151300	7	2
Beatty	..	....	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	20500	1⅜	1
Barry Hollinger	..	....	48½	46½	46½	48	74250	48½	42
Beaver	..	....	34	32¼	32¾	33½	63300	37	26
Bidgood	..	....	12	10	10¼	12¾	56150	16¼	5½
Boston Creek	..	....	6	5½	5½	6	2000	7	4½
Buckingham	..	....	4½	4⅛	4¾	4⅜	7500	5⅜	3¾
Can. Lorrain	..	....	43	40	40	42½	4000	50	40
Capitol	..	....	33	32	32	32	18000	37½	32
Castle Tre.	..	....	84	80	80	83	29150	84	71
Clifton Con.	..	....	19	16	17	18	107775	25¾	14
Coniagas	5	12.56	..	..	..	..	....	2.30	1.99
Cons. Smelters	6	2.22	69½	67¼	67½	69¼	5280	72	48
Cons. W. Dome	..	....	17½	16¼	17	17¼	82750	22	16
Col. Kirkland	..	....	6⅛	5½	6¾	6	124600	10½	4
Crown Res.	..	....	44½	42	42	44½	48300	54½	42
Dome Mines	2.00	13.55	15.35	13.50	14.75	15.35	9550	16.50	13.25
Everett	..	....	8½	7¾	7¾	8⅜	77000	10	4¾
Gifford	..	....	½	½	½	½	6000	¾	½
Gold Reef	..	....	1½	1½	1½	1½	3000	2	1¼
Goldale	..	....	20	18½	18½	19¾	24800	22½	18
Hattie	..	....	2¾	1½	2⅛	1⅜	120200	2¾	1½
Hattie P.	..	....	48	45	48	50	2000	67	45
Inter. Nickel, com.	..	....	..	..	..	..	....	27½	25½
Hollinger	13	4.62	14.40	13.60	14.05	14.40	7250	15.65	13.60
Hunton	..	....	7¼	7	7	7¼	7300	8½	4¾
Inspiration	..	....	..	..	..	..	....	10	7
Indian	..	....	14	10⅛	12	11	68000	17	5
Keora	..	....	18	16	16	17¾	74950	19½	9½
South Keora	..	....	26	20	24½	23¾	33600	26	20
Keeley	..	....	2.05	2.00	2.03	2.06	9050	2.32	1.98
Kirk. Rand.	..	....	..	..	..	..	....	60½	40
Kirk. Lake	..	....	46	43	43	46	36500	60½	35
Lakeside	..	....	10½	9½	9¾	9⅜	19000	15¾	9½
La Rose	..	....	41½	40	40	41	42900	54	7½
Lake Shore	20	3.40	5.95	5.70	5.87	5.70	5785	6.10	4.51
Lorrain T. L.	..	....	1.32	1.20	1.27	1.20	7275	1.34	1.14
Lorrain	..	....	21½	19	20	21¼	283800	24	12¾
McIntyre	20	5.74	17.90	17.35	17.40	17.85	4625	18.25	16.00
McKinley	..	....	38½	29½	30	37½	253050	44½	15¾
Mining Corp.	..	....	2.70	2.65	2.70	2.80	2500	3.16	2.55
Moneta	..	....	15½	15½	15½	16	8000	18¾	14½
Newray	..	....	28½	24½	24½	24½	14200	28½	25
Nipissing	12+6	14.40	6.30	6.15	6.25	6.32	887	6.80	6.10
Night Hawk	..	....	30	25	27	25	2300	49½	25
Ophir	..	....	6½	6	6	6¼	14000	7⅜	3
Pete Lake	..	....	9⅜	9¼	9⅜	9⅜	56200	12	8¾
Porc. Crown	..	....	5	5	5	5½	2300	8	4
Premier Gold	32	13.61	2.40	2.33	2.35	2.40	3205	2.57	2.15
Preston E.D.	..	....	9⅛	9	9	9⅛	24100	12	8⅜
Silver Leaf	..	....	1	1	1	1	1000	1	1
Teck Hughes	..	....	1.47	1.38	1.39	1.46	45000	1.49	1.23
Thomp.-Krist	..	....	..	..	..	..	....	3	1
Timiskaming	..	....	25	23	23	26	1600	30	20½
Tough-Oakes	..	....	37	33	34½	35½	26700	45	33
Trethewey	..	....	19½	19½	19½	22	2800	22	16¾
Skead	..	....	16	15	16	15	18500	20	14½
Vickers	..	....	7	6¼	6½	6⅛	18000	20½	4
Vipond Cons.	..	....	1.27	1.19	1.21	1.27	12697	1.42	1.19
Wakenda	..	....	2	2	2	2½	2000	3½	1⅜
Wasapika	..	....	2	2	2	2	15000	3⅜	1¾
West Tree	..	....	3⅜	3½	3½	3½	11000	5	3
Wettlaufer	..	....	6	5½	5¾	6	8000	16	4½
Wright-Har.	20	4.49	4.50	4.45	4.45	4.75	395	4.95	4.15
Oil Companies									
B.A. Oil	2+2	6.75	41	37	37	40½	1519	41¾	37
Imperial	25c.	8.93	30¾	28	28	30	269	34½	28
Inter. Pet.	25c.	....	26	24	24	26	480	28¾	23½
North Star, com.	..	....	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	500	1.60	1.00
North Star, pref.	7	8.53	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.12	200	4.25	3.90
Continental	25c.	....	27¾	27	27	27½	52	29	26

Much Development Yet to be Done on Coniaurum

Details of progress on developing the Coniaurum at Porcupine were given in Coniagas annual report. Gen. Mgr. Fraser Reid stated that the shaft is down 1,092 feet. A station was cut at 1,010-foot level and work done on the 700 and 1,010-foot levels. At the higher level a cross-cut was advanced 876 feet southeast of the main shaft and another 640 feet to the north. On the lower level a cross-cut was driven 675 feet to the southeast, and a second was taken 713 feet to the west. Diamond drilling from points underground and 1,257 feet in five bore holes completed. The mine has hoisting equipment capable of handling material from a depth of 2,500 feet. He expressed the opinion that the geological conditions are favorable for the appearance of ore.

Owing to the geological conditions and the fact that sufficient development work has not yet been done, Pres. R. W. Leonard states it is too early yet to forecast the future of the Coniaurum property. A great deal of development work, perhaps at even deeper levels than at present, will have to be done before the possibilities of the property can be determined.

Dealing with the Cobalt property he says it would not be a profitable undertaking to erect a new mill at Cobalt at the present time. According to the general manager's report there remains in Coniagas and Tretheway mines about 30,000 tons of broken ore containing approximately 200,000 ounces of silver. He also states that none of the claims investigated by the company during the year give sufficient evidence of value to warrant further expenditure.

The financial report of Coniagas Reduction Co., Ltd., shows that the company possesses quick assets amounting to $896,848.

C.N.R. Line to Rouyn Goes South From O'Brien

The route of the C. N. R. line into Rouyn is outlined in a bill before Quebec legislature as follows: "The company may survey, lay out, construct, equip, maintain and operate a line or lines of railway from a point on the National Transcontinental Railway near O'Brien, in the township of Privat, in the province of Quebec, thence southerly through the township of Privat, Poularies, Destor and Dufresnoy, to a point in the township of Rouyn, with power to build branch lines from a point in said township of Rouyn westerly to a point on the provincial boundary between the provinces of Quebec and Ontario, and easterly to a point at or near Grand Lake Victoria, or a point on the National Transcontinental Railway, west of Parent."

SILVER AND OTHER METALS

Mar.	16	17	18	19
Silver— Lond. (d.)	31 15/16	31 15/16	32 1/16	32 1/16
N. Y.	68	68	68¼	68
Copper	—	14½	14⅝	14
Lead	—	9.00	9.00	9.00
Zinc	—	7.42	7.30	7.25

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Abitibi Power & Paper Company, Limited

Notice is hereby given that a quarterly dividend of 1¾ per cent. has been declared on the Preferred Stock of the Abitibi Power and Paper Company, Limited, payable the 1st day of April, 1925, to shareholders of record on the 20th day of March, 1925.

By Order of the Board.

W. H. SMITH,
Secretary-Treasurer.

The Toronto General Trusts Corporation

Dividend No. 115

Notice is hereby given that a dividend of three per cent. (3%) has been declared upon the paid-up capital stock of this Corporation for the quarter ending March 31st, 1925, being at the rate of

Twelve Per Cent. Per Annum

and that the same will be payable on and after Wednesday, the first day of April, 1925. The transfer books of the Corporation will be closed from Tuesday, the 17th day of March, until Tuesday, the 31st day of March, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board of Directors.

W. G. WATSON,
General Manager.

Toronto, March 3rd, 1925.

The Trinidad Electric Company, Ltd.

Notice is hereby given that a dividend of 1¼% for the quarter ending March 31st, 1925, on the Capital Stock of the Company has been declared.

Warrants will be issued and mailed to the address of each shareholder and are payable at the Royal Bank of Canada, Halifax, N.S., on and after the 10th of April, 1925.

The transfer books of the Company will be closed from the 1st to the 10th of April, 1925, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board.

F. B. OXLEY,
Secretary.

Ottawa Light, Heat & Power Company, Limited

Common Stock Dividend No. 20a

Notice is hereby given that a quarterly dividend of 1½% (one and one-half per cent.), being at the rate of 6% per annum, on the Common Stock of this Company has been declared for the period ending March 31st, 1925, and payable that date to Shareholders of record at the close of business on the 16th day of March, 1925.

The transfer books of the Company will not be closed.

By Order of the Board.

D. R. STREET,
Secy.-Treas.

Ottawa, March 10th, 1925.

Montreal City and District Savings Bank

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend of two dollars and fifty cents per share has been declared on the Capital Stock, called and paid up, of this Bank, and will be payable at its Head Office, in this City, on and after Wednesday, April first next, to shareholders of record, Saturday, March fourteenth next, at twelve o'clock noon.

By order of the Board,

A. P. LESPERANCE,
General Manager.

Montreal, February 23rd, 1925.

Laurentide Company Limited

DIVIDEND NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a dividend of one and one-half per cent. (1½%) has been declared upon the Capital Stock of this Company, for the quarter ending March 31st instant, payable on Wednesday, April 1st, 1925, to Shareholders of record at the close of business March 17th, 1925.

By order of the Board of Directors.

W. F. ROBINSON,
Secretary.

Montreal, March 5th, 1925.

Young lady would do any kind of typewritten work. French or English. For particulars apply P. O. Box 238, Amos, Que.

Barcelona Traction, Light and Power Co.

LIMITED

(Incorporated under the Laws of Canada).

NOTICE is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Barcelona Traction, Light & Power Company, Limited, have declared a dividend of one per cent. on the 7% Non-Cumulative Participating Preference Shares of the Company, payable on the 15th April, 1925, to all Shareholders of record at the close of business on the 6th April, 1925.

Dated at Toronto, Canada, 18th March, 1925.

R. H. MERRY, Secretary.

NOTE—The Transfer Agents of the Company are National Trust Company, Limited, Toronto, Canada.

The London Agents of the Company are the Canadian & General Finance Company, Limited, 3 London Wall Buildings, London, E.C. 2.

Current Events in Banking World

FARMER'S WIFE TELLS OF THRIFT AND ITS BENEFITS

What One Woman Did to Help Meet Problems of the Farm

In these times when the farmers of Western Canada are getting back on their feet after being swept about by inflation and then deflation, thrift is one of the great essentials in the solving of the problems of the average farm household. E. L. Kenney, manager of the Bank of Commerce at Empress, Alta., sends the following as indicative of what the farm women can do to meet the problems of reducing the farm overhead by the employment of methods of thrift. It is a letter written by a farmer's wife and needs no further introduction. More evidence of this kind as to how courage and determination win out over difficulties would help in creating a better spirit to meet the present situation.—J. W. T.

To my mind the farmer holds a unique position. He is both a capitalist and a laborer, but he cannot command the capital of the capitalist nor demand the exorbitant wage of the laborer. It is impossible, therefore, for him to budget his income or to say what he can or will do, as he never knows whether he will save anything or not at the end of the year. Our crop of wheat should have been 1,000 bushels, but it was only 400. That 400 of wheat and 100 of barley, all we have to sell, will bring at present lower prices, about $335. After $100 is taken for taxes, and $80 for threshing (it would have been over $100 if my husband and the boys hadn't got to work and stacked it) is taken out, what is left is our income for a year. That is $155, and the supply of feed is the husband's income. Now the wife's part comes in. If he will give her the feed, by plenty of hard labor she can make a second income on that feed by raising poultry, etc., and surely she is entitled to what she can make, although there are some men mean enough to grudge her that corn. But failure or success depends much upon the harmony existing between husband and wife.

You spoke of a "Joint Savings Account." All right, if there is harmony, but stop to think there is no such thing as a savings account for the farmers these times. So many right round us are going to the wall every day, so many just throwing up their farms, can't pay taxes and interest. They want to join the laborers to get the high wages.

But to come back to the point of finance on the farm or how to make good. Now, I will speak of ourselves. Both my husband and I have a natural antipathy toward being in debt or having to pay out our hard-earned money in interest, and I think that is the secret of our success. We do not pay any interest because we do not owe anyone. Our method was to save and save, and do without in some way or other till we could pay the cash, and we have saved many a dollar by being able to pay cash. My father made a lot of money in his day and was a hard worker, but in order to make it he paid out as much in interest as he made.

He had not over much schooling and as we grew up each had to do his correspondence work. So we children knew all about it when he was hard pressed, and it took a lot of the joy out of our child life. I used to wish I could be a great singer, so that I could earn lots of money, and the first thing I would do would be to pay off all father owed. Our children do not have any worry like that, but, still, I have taught them very strict rules of economy. I have given them plain but wholesome food and luxuries are given as a treat, and then they enjoy them the more.

Sometimes they grumble and say "so and so has always got chocolate bars or big oranges in their lunch pails, and I say "yes, but so and so's parents can't pay their taxes." That is the whole trouble with the world to-day. People want the good eats and the amusements, and little work. I think work and more work must be the salvation of the economical world. We must work and save, for a dollar saved is a dollar earned, and we can't save if we don't work. I never buy a new thing until I have taken every last bit of service out of the old.

My husband mends up his old machinery and makes it go until it is no longer possible. He saves and I save, and we have one purse, and still have separate bank accounts, when we have anything to bank. He lets me have all the butter and poultry money and helps me to earn all I can otherwise, such as prizes at fairs, etc., and lets me board the school teacher sometimes, when there is an opportunity. Up till this year he provided for the large outlays, such as flour, meat, sugar, tea, etc. He always bought it wholesale—I mean in large quantities, and thus saved by paying cash, and I bought the clothing and smaller things, but this year he says I have been the money maker, and I have to foot more of the bills, which I assure you are only for necessities. When the war was on and prices for our produce were up in the air, we saved harder than ever, for we expected these times, and we were able to invest in some Victory Bonds.

The interest now just pays the children's high school tuition fees. If it were not for that they could not go on with their education. Our girl is taking music lessons and practising on my sister's piano. We would like to get one of our own, but will have to wait till we can save a little more yet.

Says Success Stories Would Help Others Meet Problems

The suggestion made by J. W. T. that bank managers contribute stories of those who have made good in Canada by enterprise, determination and hard work and who have proven that this is a country of opportunity brings the following words of commendation from C. M. Bowman, chairman of the board of the Mutual Life of Waterloo, whose practical, constructive efforts to improve agricultural conditions in Western Canada have been widely praised:

J. W. T., THE FINANCIAL POST, Toronto: I have read with great interest the story told by A. J. Reynolds, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce at Prince Albert, giving the experience of Carl and his two brothers in Saskatchewan, and desire to congratulate you on the publication of articles of this character, and I trust you will be able to publish many more.

As a result of my observations during the past six years I have no hesitation in saying that thousands of similar stories can be gathered in the three prairie provinces, and in view of the great amount of blue ruin talk which has been participated in, by many who should know better, during the past few years, the Press of Canada can render no better service, in my humble judgment, than in publishing interesting articles such as the one referred to above to show that thrift and application has in the past, and no doubt will in the future, develop prosperous farmers in Western Canada.

C. M. BOWMAN,
Chairman of the Executive, Mutual Life of Canada.

Waterloo, March 11, 1925.

Staff Gossip

K. Bulford, of the local staff of the Standard Bank, has been transferred to Brooklyn, Ont.—The Sun, Trenton.

* * *

W. Foley has been transferred from the Union Bank staff to Regina, and Mr. Morrison of Assiniboia has taken his place here.—Progress, Estevan.

* * *

John Adair, who has been manager of the Sterling bank, Toronto office, for some years, has been appointed acting manager of the Standard Bank of Canada at Montreal. — Manitoba Free Press, Winnipeg.

* * *

E. W. Lamprey, manager of the local branch of the Bank of Toronto, has been elected chairman of the insurance, financial and real estate bureau of the Vancouver board of trade for 1925. — The Sun, Vancouver.

* * *

The Banque Canadienne Nationale reports the opening of three new branches in February, one each at St. Vincent Ferrier, Montreal, and Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que., and a sub-agency at St. Jean Chrysostome, Co. Levis, Que.

* * *

Wilbur James, who has been manager of the London street branch of the Molsons Bank, has been promoted to the managership of the Ford branch of the Bank of Montreal, which recently absorbed the Molsons Bank. — The Echo, Amherstburg.

* * *

John H. Wilson, manager of the Sterling Bank (and of the Standard since the amalgamation) for the past four years, is leaving that institution and joining a life insurance firm in Toronto. Mr. Wilson is succeeded as manager of the Standard Bank, Barrie, by R. R. White, of Napanee.—The Examiner, Barrie.

* * *

L. M. Wright, of Dauphin, who was relieving H. J. McLeod as accountant in the Canadian Bank of Commerce, has left for Hawarden where he has been transferred. Mr. McLeod will resume his duties as accountant, while A. J. Reynolds will act as manager until he leaves for his new post.—The Herald, Prince Albert.

* * *

D. T. Scrimgeour, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Victoria Road branch, for the past few years, has been appointed manager of the branch at Creston, in succession to C. G. Bennett. Mr. Scrimgeour has held various posts in the bank while in Vancouver during the past ten years.—The Province, Vancouver.

The January bank statement and an analysis thereof will be found on page 28.

Exchange

NEW YORK FUNDS

	High	Low	Last Year High	Last Year Low
Mar. 12	1- 8	3-32	3 9-16	3 17-32
Mar. 13	3-32	5-64	3 17-32	3 15-32
Mar. 14	3-32	3-32	3 1-2	3 7-16
Mar. 16	3-32	5-64	3 1-2	3 15-32
Mar. 17	3-32	3-32	3 15-32	3 3-8
Mar. 18	7-64	3-32	3 3-8	2 7-8

STERLING, FRANCS AND LIRE

	Sterling Demand	Francs Dem.	Lire Demand
Mar. 12	4.78⅛	5.11¾	4.05½
Mar. 13	4.78⅜	5.15	4.06¾
Mar. 14	4.78½	5.14¾	4.07½
Mar. 16	4.78¼	5.14¼	4.08¾
Mar. 17	4.77¾	5.17	4.07¾
Mar. 18	4.77⅞	5.17	4.05½

Weekly Bank Clearings

(In comparison with the same week last year.)

EASTERN CITIES

	Mar. 13/24	Mar. 12/25
Halifax	$2,504,615	$2,700,412
St. John	2,387,317	2,474,983
Moncton	625,904	675,554
Quebec	6,116,539	4,310,083
Sherbrooke	854,053	671,464
Montreal	81,769,665	75,971,128
Ottawa	5,077,484	5,380,302
Kingston	512,570	553,343
Peterboro	671,786	730,628
Toronto	80,425,114	75,516,808
Hamilton	4,423,541	3,947,086
Brantford	862,920	807,905
London	2,229,267	2,096,070
Kitchener	751,484	868,811
Windsor	2,916,735	2,516,901

WESTERN CITIES

	Mar. 13/24	Mar. 12/25
Fort William	$ 680,002	$ 528,166
Winnipeg	33,375,888	49,101,227
Brandon	414,750	443,556
Regina	2,780,515	2,740,670
Moose Jaw	872,175	854,104
Saskatoon	1,414,984	1,284,481
Prince Albert	391,677	292,375
Lethbridge	481,746	468,498
Calgary	6,360,173	7,382,391
Edmonton	3,922,641	4,294,286
Medicine Hat	265,761	295,706
New Westminster	554,406	554,274
Vancouver	13,765,598	12,888,426
Victoria	1,705,346	1,700,793

Why Does the Bank of England Raise the Rate?

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL.—The Bank of England rate has gone up. What does this mean and why was it done? What are the effects of the move?

Whenever prices show signs of rising too rapidly, or there are signs of an unsound rise in prices, the Bank of England raises the rate. The effect is the curtailment, to some extent, of industry and it also has the effect of increasing the attraction of foreign monies to remain on deposit in England. When foreign capital or funds is attracted to the British Isles, it is but natural that the pound sterling should rise. This is what has happened since the higher loaning rate of the Bank of England went into effect. The pound is quoted 4c. higher in New York since the change.

The raising of the rate affects the exchange rate in this way: When more American money is left in Britain, there are fewer firms who are demanding bills of exchange drawn on New York and as a consequence the price of the dollar in London falls.

Prior to the rate increase in London the federal reserve raised their rediscount rate also. It is believed, however, that while this will, to some degree, offset the effect of the increased bank rate in London, there will be no need to again raise the rate there, for the increase has more or less fulfilled its purpose.

Canada Cement Company, Limited

ORDINARY SHAREHOLDERS

Dividend No. 36

Notice is hereby given that a dividend of 1½% for the three months ending March 31st, 1925, being at the rate of 6% per annum on the paid up Ordinary Stock of this Company, has been declared, and that the same will be paid on the 16th day of April next to Ordinary Shareholders of record at the close of business March 31st, 1925.

H. L. DOBLE,
Secretary.

Montreal, March 16th, 1925.

CANADIAN LOCOMOTIVE COMPANY, LIMITED

Dividend No. 53

Notice is hereby given that quarterly dividend of one and three-quarters per cent. on the Preferred Stock was declared payable April 1, 1925, to shareholders of record March 20, 1925.

G. W. DALY,
Secretary.

Kingston, Ont., March 10, 1925.

The B. Greening Wire Company, Limited

Preference Dividend No. 7

Notice is hereby given that a quarterly dividend of one and three-quarters per cent. on the Preferred Shares of the Company has been declared payable April 1st, 1925, to shareholders of record March 16, 1925.

F. J. MAW,
Secretary.

Hamilton, Ont., March 16, 1925.

Woods Manufacturing Company, Limited

Preferred Stock Dividend Notice

The regular quarterly Dividend of one and three-quarters (1¾) per cent. on the PREFERRED STOCK of WOODS MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED, for the quarter ending March 31st, 1925, has been declared payable April 1st, 1925, to Shareholders of record March 23rd, 1925.

By Order of the Board.

JOHN T. F. KEENE,
Secretary-Treasurer.

February 12th, 1925.

TENDERS FOR DEBENTURES

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned up to Thursday, April 2nd, 1925, for the purchase of the following Debenture issues:

$19,347.00—For construction of Cement walk under Local Improvements, term 10 years, interest 7%. Equal annual payments of Interest and Principal $2,754.58, payable any place or places in Canada. By-law No. 247.

$15,000.00 — For Completion of High School. Term 30 years; interest 5½%. Equal annual payments of Interest and Principal $1,032.06 payable any place or places in Canada or Great Britain. By-law No. 278 Government Guarantee.

$15,729.48—For construction of Cement Walks under Local Improvements. Term 10 years; interest 7%. Equal annual payments of Interest and Principal $2,239.53 payable any place or places in Canada. By-law No. 279.

$67,480.00—For construction of Pavements under Local Improvements. Term 15 years; interest 6½%. Equal annual payments of Interest and Principal $7,176.67, payable any place or places in Canada. By-law No. 280.

$10,000.00—For completion of extension to Public School. Term 30 years; interest 5½%. Equal annual payments of Interest and Principal $688.04, payable any place or places in Canada or Great Britain. By-law No. 281, Government Guarantee.

$128,000.00—Water Works Extension. Term 16 years; interest 5½%. Equal annual payments of Interest and Principal $12,752.07, payable any place or places in Canada. By-law No. 284, Government Guarantee.

$72,000.00—Sewer Extensions under Local Improvements. Term 15 years; interest 5½%. Equal annual payments of Interest and Principal $7,173.04, payable any place or places in Canada. By-law No. 285; Government Guaranteed.

TENDERS not accepted for less than the full above-mentioned issues.

Purchaser to arrange and pay for Printing of Bonds.

Any further particulars may be obtained from the undersigned.

TOWN OF TIMMINS,
Per: H. E. Montgomery,
Clerk and Treasurer.

This Bank and Your Business

The selection of a Bank and its willingness to co-operate is often the determining factor in the success of a business house.

The manager of each branch of this Bank is always willing to aid customers in their business problems with impartial advice and to co-operate to the fullest extent.

IMPERIAL BANK

OF CANADA

182 BRANCHES IN DOMINION OF CANADA.

Agents in Great Britain: ENGLAND—Lloyds Bank Limited, London and Branches. SCOTLAND — The Commercial Bank of Scotland, Limited, Edinburgh and Branches. IRELAND—Northern Banking Co., Limited, Belfast and Branches. Agents in FRANCE: Lloyds and National Provincial Foreign Bank, Limited, Credit Lyonnais.

CENTRAL CANADA

LOAN AND SAVINGS COMPANY

Dividend No. 164

Notice is hereby given that a Quarterly Dividend of Three per cent (3%) for the three months ending March 31st, 1925, (being at the rate of Twelve per cent per annum) has been declared upon the Capital Stock of this Institution, and the same will be payable at the offices of the Company, Toronto, on and after Wednesday, the 1st day of April, 1925.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 16th to the 31st of March, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board.

G. A. MORROW,
Managing Director

CITY OF VANCOUVER, B.C.

DEBENTURES FOR SALE

SEALED TENDERS WILL BE RECEIVED by the undersigned up to 12 o'clock noon on Monday, 30th March, 1925, for the following City of Vancouver Debentures, dated 1st February, 1925, amounting to $1,000,000.00.

By-law No.	Amount	Term	Purpose	
1690	$200,000.00	15 years	Roads	1st Feb. 1940
1691	200,000.00	40 "	Sewers	1st Feb. 1965
1692	250,000.00	40 "	Isolation Hospital	1st Feb. 1965
1693	35,000.00	40 "	Coal Harbour Causeway	1st Feb. 1965
1694	105,000.00	40 "	Hastings School	1st Feb. 1965
1695	105,000.00	40 "	Charles Dickens School	1st Feb. 1965
1696	105,000.00	40 "	General Gordon School	1st Feb. 1965

all bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly on the first days of February and August.

These Debentures are a direct obligation of the City at large. Provision can be made for registration of principal.

Alternative offers on the basis of interest and principal payable in Canada only, and in Canada and the United States, are asked for.

Parties tendering are required to state the net price for Vancouver payment and delivery of the securities. If desired delivery will be made elsewhere at the purchaser's expense.

A certified cheque, payable to the City Treasurer, for $10,000.00 must accompany each tender.

The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

A. J. PILKINGTON, City Comptroller.

City Hall, Vancouver, B.C.

CITY OF OSHAWA

TENDERS FOR DEBENTURES $410,249.59

Tenders addressed to the undersigned and marked on the envelope "Tender for Debentures" will be received up till 5 p.m. Thursday, March 26th, for the following debentures:

Purpose	Amount	Rate %	Term	Denominations	Interest Annually	Pay. at
Sidewalks	$17962.78	5	10 yr. Instal.	$1000.00 & odd amounts	Dec. 31st	Oshawa
Pavements	198098.43	5	15 yr. Instal.	"	Dec. 31st	"
Sewer	14724.00	5	15 yr. Instal.	"	Dec. 31st	"
Water Mains	29392.30	5	20 yr. Instal.	"	Dec. 31st	"
Sewers	65072.08	5	30 yr. Instal.	"	Dec. 31st	"
High School Extension	85000.00	5	20 yr. Instal.	"	Dec. 31st	"
	410249.59					

Denominations of Bonds $1000.00 and odd amounts. Accrued interest to be added to price on delivery. Delivery and payment to be made at Oshawa. The Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all tenders.

P. A. BLACKBURN, City Treasurer.

CITY OF EDMONTON,

ALBERTA, CANADA

Notice is hereby given that the following bonds numbered as below, of the Series "1," due October, 1929, are called for redemption as at April 1, 1925, and that the said bonds will bear no interest after April 1, 1925.

No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1	288	685	1001	1256	1576	1972	2348	2615	2815
2	319	691	1027	1257	1604	1987	2353	2616	2816
4	341	695	1028	1286	1615	1996	2370	2617	2818
5	359	731	1029	1294	1625	2010	2380	2619	2829
6	365	732	1043	1403	1626	2030	2389	2625	2835
7	439	740	1067	1404	1627	2050	2413	2640	2845
12	443	747	1071	1406	1649	2069	2414	2661	2848
34	445	748	1084	1409	1677	2075	2456	2663	2853
88	483	763	1092	1410	1681	2076	2458	2678	2860
114	490	764	1099	1411	1683	2078	2460	2701	2864
134	499	771	1100	1416	1684	2115	2470	2712	2871
138	507	820	1101	1442	1687	2137	2475	2720	2877
139	508	823	1120	1455	1688	2146	2478	2725	2890
140	538	824	1121	1457	1699	2157	2519	2730	2898
149	550	842	1122	1478	1717	2173	2520	2747	2909
150	552	846	1125	1481	1749	2185	2521	2753	2910
160	560	944	1165	1494	1777	2195	2527	2759	2913
186	566	953	1169	1495	1803	2237	2529	2763	2914
190	572	954	1170	1512	1807	2245	2533	2765	2915
224	595	955	1171	1513	1812	2261	2544	2773	2918
225	596	959	1172	1519	1823	2262	2545	2774	2928
226	612	961	1176	1538	1859	2278	2562	2791	2949
229	613	962	1199	1543	1864	2289	2565	2809	2960
248	615	992	1224	1544	1888	2327	2576	2811	2967
258	673	993	1225	1555	1897	2328	2593	2813	
270	684	997	1226	1575	1964	2338	2607	2814	

Bonds will be redeemed at any of the places of payment mentioned therein.

DATED AT EDMONTON, this 2nd day of February, 1925.

F. BARNHOUSE, City Treasurer.

Lorrain Trout Lake Mines, Limited

Dividend No. 1

The Directors of this Company have declared an Interim Dividend of 5%, payable April 15th to shareholders of record April 1st. The transfer books will be closed from the close of business on April 1st until the close of business April 14th.

Dated at Toronto this 13th day of March, 1925, by order of the Board.

G. C. AMES,
Secretary.

The Dominion Bank

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend of three per cent. upon the paid-up Capital Stock of this Institution has been declared for the quarter ending 31st March, 1925, being at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum, and that the same will be payable at the Head Office of the Bank and its Branches on and after Wednesday, the 1st day of April, 1925, to shareholders of record of the 20th March, 1925.

By Order of the Board.

C. A. BOGERT,
General Manager.

Toronto, 27th February, 1925.

THE FINANCIAL POST

Member Audit Bureau of Circulations
President—JOHN BAYNE MACLEAN.
Vice-President—HORACE T. HUNTER.
Manager—GORDON RUTLEDGE
Editor—J. W. TYSON.

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THE FINANCIAL POST HAS THE LARGEST PAID CIRCULATION OF ANY CANADIAN FINANCIAL PAPER

TORONTO, MARCH 20, 1925

OUR STANDARD OF LIVING

SO GREAT is the desire on the part of Italians to earn their own living apart from any state aid, that women operatives in the Iseo region near Brescia are working at the phenomenal wage of 18 centimes per hour (which is less than 4c.). It is even claimed that the works in question can be kept in operation day and night, so anxious are the people in the district to be self-supporting.

The products of this cheap labor are being offered in Canada in competition with Canadian made goods. As in Italy, so in France, in Germany, in Belgium and other countries of Europe, the people are working at wages which permit the marketing of goods at prices which cannot be contemplated by the manufacturers in this country on the present level of wage costs.

The Canadian manufacturers in the face of this situation are demanding that the government increase the tariff protection. It is not hard to understand the difficulty of their position and the problem with which they have to contend. And contrary to the opinion commonly held by workers—at least as expressed by their spokesmen—there is no general effort on the part of the manufacturers to reduce wages. Manufacturers will tell you, when asked on this point, that they want to pay wages in keeping with our present standard of living.

Manufacturers are seeing their home market supplied with foreign goods and they do not want to be accused of grinding down the wages of their workers to meet competition. Their attitude is worthy of commendation in one sense. No one wants to take a step which seems aimed at lowering the standard of living. And yet we have serious unemployment, and the standard of living of the man who cannot get work must be much lower than that of the man who has a job, even if he has to take lower wages.

The question is whether we can afford a standard of wages in industry so high that the goods produced under such a standard cannot be sold in competition with similar goods manufactured under a different standard in another country plus duty and the cost of bringing them to our market. Would it not be better to have more full time jobs at a somewhat lower wage scale than maintain the present standard with short time and unemployment?

MONTREAL PUTS ON BRAKES

IN ITS protest against proceeding with the erection of the new $15,000,000 bridge over the St. Lawrence river, to connect the city with the South Shore, the Montreal Board of Trade has forwarded to Premier King a letter urging that the project be dropped for the present. The attitude of the board is that while the new bridge would be a good thing for the city and would help to develop business, the cost would be an added burden on the taxpayers of the country at a time when it is highly desirable that expenditures should be curtailed. It is submitted that the Victoria bridge can be enlarged to carry the traffic in prospect for some years at a cost of about $3,000,000.

While the business men of Montreal may possibly feel that there is a better chance to get the enlargement of the Victoria bridge than a new structure and are working on the policy that half a loaf is better than none, still it is very refreshing to find one local organized body in Canada urging upon the government a course that on the face of it entails a reduction in public expenditure in the home constituency.

There is no more important issue before the country to-day than taxation. The direct and only effective way to reduce the tax levies is to curtail expenditures—and that cannot be done by paying subsidies and building new public works. If at Montreal or in other parts of the country there are undertakings that can be postponed without serious detriment to the public service, it is the duty of the government—election or no election—to practise sound economy and hold up such projects.

A SOUTHERN TRAGEDY

A SAD experience of municipal ownership comes from Dothan, Alabama. The city floated bonds to the amount of $750,000 and began to build a great dam and erect a power plant to serve the city. The estimate of the cost was wrong, to begin with, and the $750,000 was spent and the work was not nearly completed. In the meantime, the floods came and washed away what had been built. But let the Dothan Eagle tell the tale:

"The writer went yesterday to Chalker's Bluff where Dothan's hydro-electric plant used to be under construction. He wanted to view what was left after the recent floods.

"Mostly what is left are the workmen's houses on the bluff. The city's hydro-electric project presents the dejected appearance of a mining camp abandoned in 1904. Here and there are abandoned huts and other sickly testimony of the $750,000, such as parts of the dirt dam across the river. The rest of the dam went with the flood.

"The writer's untrained eye miserably failed to see where the three-quarters of a million dollars has gone, even if there had been no flood. He is also at a loss to estimate the amount of money to complete the project; certainly it would not be less than $1,500,000.

"Dothan's tax payers have on their hands a large pink-toed white elephant with an ungovernable appetite. It is the most expensive we have had the liberty of viewing at close range.

"It seems hopeless to attempt completion of the plant on the present site. If we are to have water power we will be compelled to move either up or down the creek."

The experience of Dothan should be carefully considered by all municipalities contemplating ventures into public ownership. Such consequences are not inevitable in these ventures, but they are not unusual when public utilities are conducted as political rather than business enterprises.

SERVING THE PUBLIC

TO THE man who remembers the first trip of the first street car that ever ran in his town—or who has stumbled from one dim patch of light to another thrown at intervals upon a dark street by flickering gas lamps—or who recalls with a shiver the winter days when he was forced to leave his warm bed to start the breakfast fire in the old cook stove—or who ever lived ten miles from a telephone or telegraph station, the development of urban and interurban transportation, of lighting, of gas and electric stoves, of the telephone and the telegraph, is a source of never-ceasing wonder. To the younger generation, who remember none of these things, and who accept the conveniences provided by public service corporations as a part of the natural order of things, full appreciation of the value of these services is more difficult, says the American Exchange National Bank.

A strike by the employees of the street railway, or a breakdown at the power plant, gives a brief glimpse of conditions as they would be without the services that are accepted as a matter of course. But temporary suspensions of public service facilities often lead to suspension of all other work and effort as well, so that the public of to-day only knows the difference between having these services and not having them. It knows little or nothing of the great improvement modern public service offers over the old methods. To-day, if the transportation service is obstructed or the power and light plants go out of commission, we simply sit down and wait for them to resume. If storms interfere with communication, we go without news, many business operations come to a stop and we limp along until things are fixed up again.

When we consider the maximum of convenience that is ours and the corresponding debt that we owe to the developers of public service as we know it, there should sink into our consciousness an appreciation that should cause us to be exceedingly lenient in our criticism of temporary inconveniences and to be deeply interested and generous in our attitude toward all steps that are taken for the promotion and progress of the things that are essential to a happy social and economic environment.

EDITORIAL NOTES

ON BEHALF of the farmers of the country the Canadian Council of Agriculture has registered protest against the proposed North Atlantic shipping subsidy. Who, then, is in favor of it?

* * *

THE theory is advanced that the bogus $100 bills of the Imperial Bank of Canada were placed in circulation by the Russian bolsheviks. Plausible at least. Look at the experience they have had in circulating roubles.

* * *

IT IS more than likely that the speakers at the Toronto Labor Temple who advocated the abolition of the Canadian senate would also advocate the abolition of the Canadian Labor Congress.

* * *

SHEEP raisers in Alberta are just as optimistic about the outlook as the growers of wheat, with their prospect of $2 a bushel. The best feature of the Western situation is that the day of the one crop farmer is passing where it has not already passed.

Grocery Clerk Who Became Head of Chain Store Project

THEODORE P. LOBLAW.

Whether one's sympathies are with the independent merchant and the wholesaler who supplies him or not, he cannot but commend the ability of any man of vision who follows the path to success in the chain store business. Chain stores are with us to stay. They have been operated in the Old Country and in the United States for many years. They have been operated in many forms, including the 5 and 10 centers, the 5c. to a dollar, the limited service, cash and carry and groceteria types. This story deals with the latter as founded in Canada by Theodore P. Loblaw, a native of Alliston, Ontario, who more than 30 years ago came to Toronto as a grocery clerk and grew up with the city.

The Loblaw Groceterias, Limited, control 29 stores in Ontario, 19 of which are in Toronto—and more to come—which during their fiscal year ending May 31 will do a business of perhaps six and a quarter million dollars. The company owns and controls a large wholesale warehouse with trackage under cover for incoming and outgoing freight to out-of-town stores; several immense trucks for carrying goods to local and out-of-town stores; its own refrigerator plant operated by machinery; its own coffee-grinding machine of the latest type; a department where bacon is sliced (between seven and eight thousand pounds per week) its own laundry; a baking plant, and a special egg-purchasing system.

Was a Grocery Clerk

How in less than ten years T. P. Loblaw and his associates have built up this business is an interesting story. For a long time he worked as a clerk and later was in the retail grocery business for himself. Then he formulated a new policy based on, "How can I buy foodstuffs cheaper, and at how low a price can I sell them and still make a profit? How am I to compete with the big department stores and become as large a buyer as they?"

To a friend one day he attributed the foundation of his chain store business to the attitude of the wholesaler. It was many years ago that a few retailers used to get together and buy say 100 cases of soap together at a special discount and have each merchant pick up his share. This went along for a time until he claims objections from wholesalers practically put a stop to manufacturers selling direct to a small group of retailers at special discounts. On the other hand, the department store being a large buyer was getting on more and more jobbers' lists and using their grocery department to attract customers to the store. This, Mr. Loblaw will tell you, was the condition that eventually led up to the chain type of business.

"Let's rent that building over there," he said to three or four retail confreres one day as they were standing in front of a certain block in the west end of the city, "start up a wholesale house of our own, each put in a few hundred dollars capital and at the end of the year divide the profits according to purchases. We will then be in a position to reduce the cost of the goods we are buying to a more even basis with the department store, and be able to compete with them more closely."

The Self-Same Plan

This suggestion was not taken up. Nevertheless the idea stayed with him, and, in 1910, after studying the situation in a number of United States centres, he decided on his big venture—the chain store. Originally the stores were of the cash and carry type, not groceteria. In other words, each store had its own clerks to serve its customers.

Mr. Loblaw was asked one time why he got rid of his first type of store and adopted the self-serve plan.

"In the early days," he answered, "I used to be my own store superintendent. I went around from store to store to see how things were being done. One afternoon I was standing in one of my stores watching the clerks when a woman came in to make some purchases. There were a number ahead of her and she had to wait ten or fifteen minutes. When her turn came all she bought was a quarter's worth of sugar and a bag of salt. The thought immediately came to me: 'Why could that woman not have waited on herself?' I laid my plans then to eventually get rid of the cash and carry service stores. Shortly afterwards I was joined by an associate and I immediately laid my plans to dispose of my interest to him and his associates. While the deal was really put through in 1916, it took more than three years to finally make the change."

Immediately afterwards, Mr. Loblaw took over a store on Dundas Street, West Toronto, from a service grocer and opened his first groceteria. At the same time he accepted a position as general manager of the United Farmers' Co-operative Co. of Ontario. A few months after, his first store was doing a business of $50,000 to $60,000 a year. To-day in Ontario, Loblaw Groceterias, Limited, operates 29 store with a total volume of more than $6,000,000, or an average of nearly a quarter of a million. The underlying principles in the development of the business might be summarized as follows:

Principles of Success

To buy in large quantities.

Minimum stock carried by each store tending to rapid turnover—an average of about one every twelve days.

To eliminate service, which means lower distribution costs, and enables the company to sell at minimum prices.

Short margins to induce buyers to make staples out of luxuries—this is perhaps the main factor in the development.

Mr. Loblaw will tell you he does not think his system will operate in the smaller centres where there is no density of population. There may be something that will be developed in the future for such centres, but he does not see it now. He freely admits his system will not get all the business. There will always be the aggressive service merchant. There will always be those willing to pay for service, therefore there will always be service merchants to take care of them. Naturally, because the system he has adopted has tended to change the vogue of centuries, means that he has been freely criticized. His answer is that the automobile is replacing the horse, that the radio should not be frowned upon merely because to a certain extent it is taking the place of the phonograph or other musical instruments. He maintains his type of business would not be successful if there was not a demand for it.

During 1925, stores will be opened in other centres. One is now being arranged for in Edmonton, Alberta, which will be the first in Western Canada. A new company with Mr. Loblaw at the head has been organized to operate in the United States. Already four are in operation there, and there are two others almost ready for opening.

Signing off at Sixty

Ralph Connable's picturesque announcement that he will retire from the general managership of the Woolworth Company in Canada and devote his sixty-and years to public affairs has attracted considerable attention, as he no doubt intended that it should, when he intimated that his career in the service of the public will be modeled somewhat after the example of Sir John A. Macdonald, Theodore Roosevelt, and P. T. Barnum. The directing genius of the 5-10-15 proposes to advertise himself into parliament and there give the country the benefit of the ability which has helped to raise the name of Woolworth to the top of the tallest building in the world, and the stock of the company a considerable distance in the same direction. He should succeed in the initial step, but how far he will make good in persuading the system at Ottawa to adopt what may seem rather drastic rules of simple business efficiency is not so certain. At least there will be no lack of interest in the spectacle which is promised.

While Mr. Connable's action in retiring seems to be due rather to the company's policy than to his own inclination, his decision to give the public business the benefit of his experience and an energy which is a defiance of Father Time, has again brought forth for discussion those very interesting questions: When should a man retire? And what should he do when he does vacate his office chair for a younger man?

It is interesting to speculate as to what improvement might have been effected in our public affairs had men like Lord Shaughnessy, Sir William Mackenzie, J. H. Ashdown Sir Edmund Walker, Sir Edmund Osler, and Timothy Eaton, turned off from business at the sixty crossroad and devoted themselves to public affairs. But there is no satisfactory answer. They might have done great things. But it is quite possible that Canada and the Canadian people gained more by their efforts in their own organizations, dealing with the problems they knew and understood, than if they had gone into public life in which they would probably have found themselves in strange surroundings.

One may wonder if it would not be a good thing for the country if men like Flavelle and Holt, and other leaders, would retire at the three-score mark and given their services to the public. Had he done so, Flavelle might have taken on the railroad problem as a permanent responsibility, and that would undoubtedly have been a good thing for Canada. But it should be remembered at the same time that Sir Joseph did not wait until he was sixty to take hold of the munitions problem, and when occasion demands, others might follow his example without waiting for the hour-glass to give them a formal sign. Sir Edward Kemp is another business man who went into public life before sixty.

In Canada's business life to-day there are many leaders who have passed the sixty mark by five years and more. Should they retire? Some of them may be mentioned:

	Age
Sir Joseph Flavelle	66
Sir Herbert Holt	68
Sir Augustus Nanton	64
Sir Vincent Meredith	75
Sir John Aird	69
W. G. Gooderham	72
D. B. Hanna	66
P. Burns	68
W. F. Cockshutt	69
M. J. O'Brien	72
Sir E. Kemp	66
Col. Leonard	65
S. J. Moore	65
Lord Atholstan	76
G. S. Campbell	73
C. R. Hosmer	73
Cyrus A. Birge	77
Peleg Howland	67
Sir Hormidas Laporte	74
A. W. Austin	68

Those Riper Years

Would the community lose or gain if such men retired at sixty? On one side it can be advanced that many of the greatest leaders in politics, in business, in law and in science have done their greatest work after they passed the three score mark—that it was in the years after sixty that they made the greatest use of the experience they had gained up to that time. In this there is a great deal of truth. But that is not quite the point. There is no suggestion that the men who have made outstanding success in industry and finance should at sixty submit themselves to Oslerization, take themselves off to the old men's home, or even adopt golf as life's chief aim. But rather we are considering what the benefits to the country would be if they decided in the spirit which Mr. Connable has shown to devote themselves to giving the people better government and to putting business methods into the conduct of public affairs.

There is little indication that the people would welcome them as public servants. It is difficult to decide in the study of the personnel of governments whether the people generally get what they want or deserve, or whether they merely take the best—or second best—of what is offered. But it would not be necessary, perhaps, for this plus-sixty generation to enter parliament. It needs no great study of the affairs of our provinces and of the municipalities throughout the country to reveal that there are many opportunities for the right men to work improvements.

Nor would it be necessary for business leaders in retiring to enter public life at all in order to give the community the benefit of their fuller years. Research work might have the benefits of their energies and their patronage. Perhaps no country in the world has greater need than Canada for the scientific study of our great uninvestigated resources in order that the nation and the people who make up that nation may have the greatest benefits from our vast natural heritage.

Public Service in Business

But, on the other hand, it should not be supposed that the average business man goes on slaving in his later years even though he does not retire. More and more there is a tendency on the part of the heads of industrial, financial and public service corporations to let the mantle of executive responsibility fall on younger shoulders. This gives opportunity for the heads of the concerns to apply their experience to matters of general policy. In recent years the relations between business corporations and the public have required more and more attention, and it is in this connection that the direction of the experienced older heads has been very valuable. Then, too, there have been staff problems in the solution of which the advice of those beyond the 60 mark has in many cases been of great assistance. Plans by which the public has been given a larger investment interest in big companies, and employees have been permitted to share in the earnings through bonuses or the purchase of stock, are given as examples of these changes. And in the working out of these plans many of the leaders who would be in the retired class on the sixty-year basis, have, no doubt, given a service to their organizations, but also have benefited the public to as great and perhaps much greater extent than they could have accomplished in any other way.

HALF NATION BUILDERS OVER 60

Are half of the nation builders over the sixty-year mark? Some years ago B. C. Forbes published his volume, "Men Who Are Making America." There were fifty names in the list. Exactly half of them were more than 60 years old when the volume was published in 1917:

	Age in 1917
Archbold, John D.	69
Baker, George F.	77
Bell, Alexander G.	70
Carnegie, Andrew	82
Dollar, Robert	74
Douglas, W. L.	72
Edison, Thomas A.	70
Eastman, George	63
Forgan, James B.	65
Frick, Henry C.	67
Gary, Elbert H.	69
Guggenheim Daniel	61
Hammond, John Hays	62
Heckscher, August	69
Hepburn, A. Barton	71
Keith, Minor C.	69
Nichols, William H.	65
Patterson, John H.	72
Rockefeller, John D.	78
Schiff, Jacob H.	70
Sheid, John G.	67
Simmons, E. C.	78
Stillman, James	67
Vail, Theodore N.	72
Woolworth, F. W.	65

Contrary Political Winds

From Our Own Correspondent

OTTAWA.—The situation that has developed in parliament is quite unusual. The government is pushing forward its legislation, and yet slow progress is being made. This can hardly be attributed to determined opposition, for the debate on the address this session was certainly not lengthy.

The Progressives are not making lengthy contributions to the debates this session. On the Address very few of them spoke, and though they appear to be loosening up on the Petersen contract, they are not in it with the old-time vigor. The Conservatives, of course, are making a strong demonstration, but as their members are only about 50, their opposition is not anything like as formidable as that which confronted governments in the old days.

Why then is progress slow? Because parliament seems to be in the trough of a sea, pitching and tossing about, more the plaything of the elements than anything else. There is less punch in it than this country has seen for many a day. Whether this is due to the general lassitude that seems to pervade the country it is impossible to say, but the punch is lacking all right.

There is still much difference of opinion over the probability of an early general election. In the meantime, however, all those who hope to come back are preparing for eventualities, and friends back home are being warned to be ready. Some of the shrewd ones are not leaving it all to their friends at home either. It is not difficult to see that some realize that their chief obstacle to their return will a three-cornered fight, and they are quietly trying to head this off by discreet work in the House.

It is too early to say definitely whether there will be an early general election or not, for the field is usually well cleared before dissolution is decided on. It is qute evident, however, that the government is working for a free hand, so that a quick decision may be made, if the time is considered propitious.

There are troubles in other parts of the country that may delay action. In Saskatchewan, it is understood that the Dunning government has been all ready to go to the polls, but is now having trouble with the liquor administration. Government sale of liquor always works against an administration in the prairie provinces, where opinion generally swings more to total prohibition than anything else, its recent decision for government sale having been due more than anything else to bad administration of the prohibitory law.

In the Maritimes the troubles of the Nova Scotia government, and the unrest also in New Brunswick, have brought many Liberals from those parts to the view that this is not the time to go to the people. On the other hand, it is generally considered that it would be a confession of weakness were the government to allow itself to be crowded into an election during the latter part of its fifth year.

Just now it does not look as though the speed of the parliamentary barque would be much accelerated for a while. The Petersen contract has kicked up an unexpected fuss, and there are no signs of a subsidance of the gale.

Two "Bills" of a Kind

Two interesting personalities have been removed from the political arena of late, Hon. W. H. Pugsley and Senator W. H. Bennett. For years the former stood in the front ranks of the Liberal party in the Commons while Senator Bennett at the same time equally prominent in Conservative circles sat on the left of the speaker. Both were reared in the old school which took politics as seriously as religion. Both had the faculty of expounding their political theories with a zealous fervor as direct as it was forceful. Bennett was noted for his attacks on his opponents. He was known as a hard-hitter. Pugsley was just as pugnacious and as a member of the Laurier cabinet was known as "Fighting Bill." It was also common to the pair that loyalty to party transcended all other considerations. Those who prated of independent views, they ostracized. They were in the Commons when the moderate tone and lack of passion of the present day was as inconspicious as the former is to-day. This is particularly true of the famous naval debate of 1912-13 when numerous sittings were marked by hard-hitting and close-in fighting with "Billy" Bennett on one side of the house and "Bill" Pugsley on the other, both in the thick of the fray from start to finish. It was a debate full of color and action.

The two "Bills" belonged to the political school which has almost passed away in Canada and its disappearance is robbing Canadian public life of much that is romantic.

People Pay the Taxes if Public Utilities Do Not

The effect of public ownership on the tax-bills of the residents of the community is illustrated in the following references to cases in the Western States from the Rocky Mountain Public Service Bulletin:

"The people of Colorado Springs must meet a tax increase of $3 on each thousand dollars' worth of property, to make up the city's loss in taxes growing out of its venture into municipal ownership, according to Country Assessor Frank A. Perkins.

"By taking over the local privately-owned electric plant, Colorado Springs lost an annual tax income of more than $60,000.

The town of Manitou, which also largely depended upon taxes paid by the company which operated the electric plant, must make up a loss of about $8,500 a year, according to City Attorney C. W. Dolph. Each Manitou taxpayer must meet an increase of $2.50 on each thousand dollars' worth of property owned.

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Investors' Inquiries

Questions of general interest submitted by subscribers of The Financial Post will be answered in this column, in which case only initials will be used. Other inquiries will be answered by mail. A three-cent stamp should be enclosed to cover a direct reply.

QUEBEC-RAND

Halifax Reader.—Will you give me your opinion of Quebec Rand?

With the exception of Noranda, the Quebec propositions are all still in the prospect or gamble stage.

WHICH IS SAFER?

T. M., Guelph.—Which is the safer security, Northwest Utilities or Municipal Bankers' Bonds?

The yield of the two securities about sizes up their proportional safety. One is a company dealing in power, and the other deals in mortgages.

UNITED IRON WORKS

Banker, Ont.—I desire to buy shares in United Iron Works. Could you inform me of their standing? Is there any advantage in buying their shares?

We cannot see any advantage in purchasing shares in United Iron Works. In March, 1924, we published a series of articles dealing with this company and its sales methods. They showed a situation not to be commended. At that time they had a shop in Milton not being used and were trying hard to sell stock. The methods of the salesmen were those of the stock-jobber.

MILLCREST MINES

Stratford Reader.—What chances have Millcrest property, Gowganda?

This is a property in the Castle-O'Brien section of Gowganda. Geologically it is said to be attractive. There are several interesting veins, while the people backing it would ensure good management. It looks like a good speculation.

DURANT MOTORS

J. W. D.—What is your opinion of the present outlook of Durant Motors?

Durant shares are now selling from $6 to $8, depending on the price paid originally. The Canadian company seems to be making fair progress, but there would seem to be a period of uncertainty ahead for the automobile industry. The strong financial corporation that can cut costs and survive on lean profits should win out. The fate of the others is uncertain.

GOOD COMMON STOCKS

Northern Storekeeper.—What is your opinion of Union Bank, Sherwin Williams, Canada Cement, City Dairy, Ogilvie as investments. It looks to me if the west comes back Union Bank should be worth considerably more than it is at present. I want good common stocks looking to appreciation rather than immediate dividend. If you know of any stock you might indicate it.

The stocks you mention are all highly regarded. Canada Cement looks very good, as we recently pointed out, as a hold. City Dairy has new plans in the making which make it attractive. Ogilvies, Sherwin-Williams are sound. Your ideas on Union Bank seem sound. Don't forget the double liability. You might study our analysis of Porto Rico Railway, published this week.

BROOKS STEAM MOTORS

Reader, Canning, N. S.—Would you consider stock of Brooks Steam Motors attractive, as a speculative investment?

Reader, Hawkesbury—I would like to have information re Brooks Steam Motors.

J. H., Montreal.—Kindly give me your opinion on Brooks Steam Motors.

W. W., Hamilton.—Do you consider stock of Brooks Steam Motors a safe investment?

Reader, Kentville, N. S.—I have a small block of Brooks Steam Motors and have been asked to increase my holdings. It has been represented to me that they have gotten into production, with plenty of capital for present requirements and that Brooks domestic oil burner is earning good money in profits made in manufacturing it.

THE FINANCIAL POST has always regarded the Brooks Steam Car as a proposition yet to be proven, and for this reason would not advise new purchases or increases in holdings except as a speculation. We might call attention to the fact that while the company is selling stock at the regular unit price through Brooks Securities, this same company is offering to buy the stock in—no price quoted—in advertisements in Toronto papers. Unlisted security dealers are trading in the stock around six and seven dollars. The company is producing some cars and Mr. Brooks says he will soon open agencies in the large cities. His car is coming on the market at a time when the prices of gas cars are declining. Can Brooks produce his car at a price that will enable him to compete with the gas cars? Failing this, what will be his market? These are points to be considered.

The oil burner was only recently introduced. It seems a little early to predict its success.

GILL AND FORTUNE LUMBER

Reader, Ont.—Can you give me information re Gill and Fortune Lumber Co., Trenton and Gilmour, Ont.?

This company is a Dominoin incorporation (1922) capital $3,000,000, shares $100, $2,800,000 paid up. Took over business of Gill and Fortune (1905) which operated at Trenton, Ont., for years. Company got in a bad way a few years back when the price of lumber broke, leaving them with a large inventory of high priced lumber. Were indebted heavily to bank and reorganization and bringing in of new capital followed, when assets were transferred bill of sale was recorded for $2,785,000. Later $800,000 in bonds were issued and $700,000 chattel mortgage recorded to secure the bonds. The company is fairly well regarded.

IMPERIAL TOBACCO

F. D., Quebec.—Would you kindly let me know the market price of ordinary shares of the Imperial Tobacco Co. of Canada, also what interest do they pay, and at what time, and are they a good investment? A friend in England has £100 invested in the above, and wants to sell them. Would his market be better there or here?

The shares of the Imperial Tobacco Company of Canada are changing hands at about $7 at the present time. The par value of the stock is $5 and it pays a 6 per cent. dividend with a one per cent. bonus. The shares are not listed in Montreal but are traded in on the curb here and in New York. The stock also sells in London at a corresponding price in shillings. The price obtained for the shares would be just about the same in all three markets at any given time. The dividends are payable in March, June, September and December. As to the par value of the shares of the company, they are dollars, but much of this stock was subscribed for in pounds and hence the market for them in London.

Shares in this company look like a good industrial investment, as the company is so strongly entrenched here. There would not seem to be much hope for increased dividends, this for no other reason than because of the high capitalization of over $39,000,000. On the books of the company assets include over $28,000,000, which represents goodwill, trade marks and patents.

The net profits for the year 1923 were $3,271,421 and the dividend requirements were $2,358,149.

Says Western Hemp Will Make Twine

WINNIPEG.—Eastern papers have been raising the question of the ability of Manitoba raising hemp suitable for manufacturing purposes on the ground that hemp produced in Western Canada could be used only for making cheap wrapping twines, but, due to the absence of oil in its composition, it would rot easily and not be of sufficient durability to serve as a binder twine. L. R. Key, who has been taking a keen interest in the development of both flax and hemp for fibre, and who has been shipping both flax and hemp fibre to Britain and Kitchener, Ontario, when shown this last statement said:

"The hemp and flax grown in Western Canada both belong to the soft fibred class of vegetable fibre plants producing oil seeds. Therefore, if the crop is harvested at the proper stage for fibre production there is oil in its composition.

"If it were true that the hemp grown in Western Canada had no oil in its composition it would not be a soft fibre but would be a hard fibre and in the same class as sisal, which is treated with mineral oil, the same method could, if necessary, be employed with the hemp grown in Western Canada. There is only one fault to be found in regards to the hemp grown in Western Canada and that is it is too good and valuable a commodity to use for such a short life commodity as binder twine.

"But the present small available supply of sisal, while not altogether serious, indicates that the farmers in Western Canada will have to pay a higher price for the twine required for the 1925 crop. Also we depend for our supply on a foreign country; further, we have no guarantee that we will not again be forced to pay 20 cents or even 25 cents per pound for binder twine.

"To satisfy those at home and abroad that have the welfare and progress of Western Canada at heart, I suggest that our department of agriculture carry out a comparison test between binder twine made from sisal and binder twine made from Manitoba grown hemp. I will be pleased to supply, prepare and spin the Manitoba grown fibre under supervision of the department of agriculture, the department to have the privilege of selecting sheaves from a stock of 1920 grown hemp which has not been under cover since being harvested but subjected to weather, mice, etc. Also sheaves from the 1924 grown hemp. The sheaves selected will be decordicated, scutched, hackled and spun in their presence and no chemicals or preservatives of any kind employed. The sisal and Manitoba twines to be tested as to tensile strength before and after being exposed to field conditions for from one to six months. This would settle once and for all one of the things some would-be experts are kind enough to inform us cannot be done in Western Canada.

"I am sure that the International Harvester Co., or any other firm, knows or ought to know by now that the prosperity of the Western farmer means purchasing power and with the possibilities for expansion in Western Canada it would be foolish to try and hinder the production of fibre, being a profitable and dependable crop for the farmer and provides employment for a large number of workers. This branch of agriculture would in no small way help increase the farmers' purchasing power. In the very near future it will be found to be a necessity to grow hemp and flax for fibre on a large scale in Western Canada, the hurds from the hemp and the shive from the flax being the future pulpwood with two great advantages by only requiring four months from time of seeding till ready for the pulp mill and being very easily digested. They will be found useful also for the manufacture of artificial silk and numerous other commodities.

"The West has also been informed in the past that we could not grow flax for fibre in the prairie provinces. I have enquiries for 2,000 tons, valued about $1,000,000, to be shipped to France, also Germany, Holland, United Kingdom require large quantities and are offering from £70 to £95 per ton for unscutched (semi-finish) flax fibre. With co-operation we can, in five years, bring in at least $30,000,000 per annum."

Current Opinion

TOO MANY SUBSIDIES

Fredericton Gleaner: It takes a stout believer in the Canadian idea that nothing can be good unless it is subsidized by the national treasury to hope that such a project will appreciably benefit the country. The reduction of freight rates secured will be apparent, not real. Money the shipper will save will come out of the national treasury—out of the taxpayers' pockets. The contract does not read like one a strong, well-established shipping line would seek. If it fails to secure the results expected by the Canadian Government, as has been the case with so many other contracts the same Government has made in regard to transportation matters, there will be no occasion for surprise.

WHY BOYS LEAVE THE FARM

Clinton News-Record: We reproduce on another page an article from THE FINANCIAL POST written by a boy on the much-discussed question as to the reasons why boys leave the farm. It is a good article and we would recommend it to the farmers and farmers' wives among our readers. The News-Record has on more than one occasion pointed out the fact that farmers do not "magnify their calling" as they ought to do. You can hardly expect ambitious boys and girls to stay on the farm if their fathers and mothers are always crying down the farm and its work, and if they only allow those members of the family who are going into something else the privileges of an education. Give the boys and girls who elect to remain on the farm the same privileges of self-improvement as those who are going into other lines of work and probably more will choose the farm.

EXTRAVAGANCE GOES ON

Ottawa Journal: Estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1926, tabled in Parliament on Monday, show not a glimmer of government economy. True, they are $6,933,279 below the estimates of last year, but of this more than $5,000,000 is made up by decreased interest on the National debt and reduced expenditures for Soldier Land Settlement and Disestablishment—economies that would not be helped.

In no fewer than seven branches of administration expenditure has been actually heightened, and where reductions are made they are but as a drop in the bucket.

The mental processes of the ministry baffle comprehension. Thus, with revenue $60,000,000 below last year—a fact which in itself makes Mr. King's professions of prosperity ridiculous—ministers have gone on spending money as though taxes were inexhaustible. An increase of from sixty to eighty millions in the national debt is a practical certainty for the year.

And the supplementaries—always sinister on an election year—plus compensation for Home Bank depositors, are still to come.

THE ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

Victoria Colonist: The proposal of the Canadian Government is to give a subsidy of $1,375,000 a year to a line of ten ships to compete with lines controlling hundreds of vessels, some of which are among the finest afloat. The latter lines have their trade connections. It is perfectly obvious that they are not discriminating against Canada, or, if they are, then it is conceivable that such companies as the Canadian Merchant Marine and the Canadian Pacific Steamships Company would not be members of the Conference. It is patently clear that the Atlantic Conference cannot be antagonistic to Canada, inasmuch if that were the case it would be antagonistic to its own interests, as there is a growing trade from this country. That trade would not be growing if there was the discrimination which the Government of Canada claims. No shipping conference is designed to hurt any country or any port. The lines involved are privately controlled. They represent large investments of capital and their object is to earn interest on these investments by the steady employment of their vessels. Shipping service is just like any other transportation service; it must pay if it is to be maintained and to pay it has to seek business in every direction and to meet commercial conditions everywhere.

SANE ADVICE GIVEN

Lindsay Post: A Canadian business man with a record second to none is Sir Joseph Flavelle, and some advice he has been given recently may well be taken to heart, says THE FINANCIAL POST. Sir Joseph's great public work was the organizing of munition supplies in Canada but he is at the same time identified with several financial and business concerns. Though not an orator, he has been frequently called upon to make addresses, and talks in a quiet, effective way. In a speech in Toronto on Tuesday of this week, Sir Joseph said that for any individual or group to attempt to control a market or fix a price was folly, and added that in his whole business career he had never once taken part in such an arrangement.

There is now a general complaint throughout the country regarding high taxes, but scarcely any offers to forego advantageous public expenditures. Whether or not our war debts were incurred with the thought that the subsequent burdens might be shifted elsewhere does not matter. The present fact is that these burdens must be met in Canada by Canadians and not by poor immigrants. At a bankers' meeting in Hamilton last week Sir Joseph Flavelle, while expressing disagreement with some methods of post-war taxation, added that, "It is time we stopped whining and got on with the day's work." This might well be adopted as a motto good for some years to come.

Read

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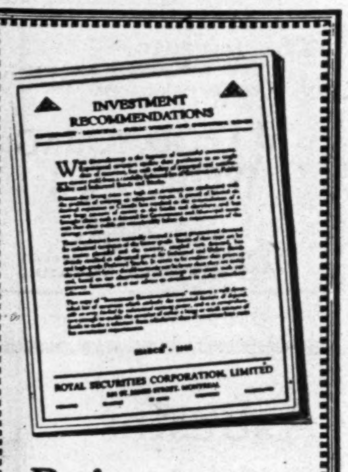

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Price: 99.00 and interest, yielding — 5.07%

Montreal Tramways Company, 5% General and Refunding Mortgage Bonds
Due April 1st, 1955.
Price: 90.25 and interest, yielding nearly — 5.70%

Belgo Canadian Paper Company, Limited, 6½% First Mortgage Bonds
Due July 1st, 1943.
Price: 100 and interest, yielding — 6.00%

Fraser Companies, Limited, 6% First Mortgage Bonds
Due January 1st, 1950.
Price: 97.50 and interest, yielding — 6.20%

Simpsons, Limited, 6½% Sinking Fund Collateral Trust Bonds
Due April 1st, 1945.
Price: 99 and interest, yielding nearly — 6.60%

These bonds warrant the consideration of conservative investors. Full information will be gladly furnished upon request.

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Province of Nova Scotia
5% Bonds due May 1, 1943
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yielding 4.85%

City of Quebec
5% Bonds due June 1, 1954
Price 101.55 and interest,
yielding 4.90%

Canadian Pacific Railway
4½% Note Certificates
due Dec. 15, 1944
Price 93⅛ and interest,
yielding 5.06%.

Duke-Price Power Company
6% First Mortgage Bonds
due July 1, 1949
Price 100⅜ and interest
yielding 5.93%

Montreal Tramways Company
5% General and Refunding Mortgage Bonds (New Issue)
Due April 1, 1955
Price 91 and interest,
yielding 5.65%

The above bonds are offered subject to prior sale and change in price. Orders may be telegraphed or telephoned at our expense. Upon request we shall be glad to send our booklet "Investment Securities," giving a complete list of our recommendations.

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News and Views of Bond Market

BOND SALES FEW; SOME INDUSTRIAL ISSUES IN SIGHT

Buying Moderate but Total Volume of Business is Limited

A slightly better showing has been made by the bond market this week in the number of offerings, and buying has been moderately active. When compared with the average or normal period, however, the total volume of business is rather small. An interesting feature is the general willingness to consider all offerings on a five per cent. basis or better.

The all absorbing interest of the week has been the Simpson issue, which, owing to the somewhat novel nature of the security offered, insofar as this market is concerned, has attracted wide attention. The reception of the issue was very favorable, the entire offering being absorbed within a very short time, both individual and insitutional buyers participating. The latter probably were the more important factor in the buying.

Probably the outstanding feature of the Canadian bond market at present is the difficulty which the dealers are finding in obtaining satisfactory offerings either in the municipal or in the industrial field. On top of this is the scarcity of provincial financing at the present time, and in prospect for the immediate future, although a considerable amount of provincial offerings will be forthcoming during the year.

It is understoood that a considerable amount of work is being done on a number of corporation issues which will be coming forward within the next week or two. None of those in sight are particularly large, but will help to counteract the present quietness somewhat. In the municipal field, the city of Vancouver is calling for tenders on a $1,000,000 issue which will close within a week or so.

U. S. Market Remains Firm

The New York bond market has continued strong and dealers still report a shortage of securities with which to meet the needs of investors, despite the large number of new foreign issues placed on the market within the past two or three months. It is stated that the raising of the Federal Reserve discount rate the last week of February had a much smaller check on bond sales than was expected. It is stated in the current Monthly Letter of the National City Bank of New York to be the opinion of bankers that the scarcity of domestic issues will force the United States dealer to turn more and more to the foreign field for new securities with which to meet the demand of investors. This is a situation which has interest for Canadian institutions and municipalties which intend seeking funds. It is highly probable that the present trend of the stock and grain markets, as well as the reported slackening in some lines of business, may be expected to increase the activity of the bond market.

HYDRO LIEN IS A MENACE TO THE MORTGAGE LOAN

Is Baneful Influence, Says Head of Mortgage Association

In reviewing events of the year, bearing on the affairs of the mortgage loaning institutions, George H. Smith, president of the Land Mortgage Companies' Association, at the annual meeting referred to the increasing recognition of the vital interest of the loaning companies in the welfare of the province and the Dominion. The member companies of this association have assets amounting nearly to $1,500,000,000, and, as Mr. Smith pointed out, their interests are largely identical with the interests of the public. As this fact becomes more generally appreciated, representations of those whose duty it is to safeguard the important interest of the association must receive a respectful hearing and a greater measure of the consideration to which they are entitled. Referring to the interference with the rights of mortgagees by the Hydro Electric and Public Utility liens, Mr. Smith said:

Perhaps the most important matter with which the executive has dealt is that of the Hydro-Electric and public utility liens. While it is not and cannot be claimed that the action of the government and legislature of Ontario in creating these liens and giving them priority over existing mortgages has no material significance to those who make loans upon real estate, it is primarily of the most vital interest to real estate owners. To the lenders it is of importance, first, in that it reduces the area of their loaning activities, and, second and of far more serious import, in the fact that it involves a recognition, the first of any great moment, in this old province of the vicious principle of interference with contractual rights which hitherto had been confined to the newer provinces where its baneful influence is beginning to be recognized and where the desirability of retracing their steps and getting back to sound British principles is coming to be admitted. The owner of real estate using or contracting for Hydro-Electric power, or likely to do so, or whose tenant may enter into such a contract, is by this legislation effectually debarred from obtaining a loan upon the security of his property. Lenders cannot possibly assume the risk of finding their claim ranking second to a large first charge of this nature which may represent not only power already used but in addition that which may have been contracted to be taken over a future period.

WINNIPEG SELLS DEBENTURES

A sale of $1,211,000 city of Winnipeg and greater Winnipeg water district debentures by the Treasury Department of the provincial Government, at a figure approximately $34,000 over par value, has been announced by the Government. The city of Winnipeg took $181,000 of the debentures, and the remainder were sold to the firm of John McGregor and Baker of Winnipeg. The issue was to be used for refunding purposes.

BOND MOVEMENTS OF THE MONTH

Bonds	Monthly Comparison Feb. 2 to Feb. 28 Op.	High	Low	Close	Latest Quotations Bid	Asked
Abitibi Pulp	99½	99½	98¾	99	99¾	100
Alabama T.L.	..	..	..	..	86¾	87½
Algoma Steel	35½	35½	..	35½	..	34
Belding Paul	..	..	..	..	85	..
Belgo Can.Pa.	98¾	99	98¾	99	98¾	..
Brompton P.	..	..	..	..	109½	..
Burns Co. P.	..	..	..	..	100½	101½
Brand.-Hend.	..	..	..	..	90	
Canada Steam.	99	99½	99	..	98¾	99
Canada Steam.	78¾	78¾	77½	77¾	77½	78½
Can. L. & P.	55	55	54½	54½	54½	..
Can. Nat. Rys.	..	..	..	..	100¾	101½
C.N.R. Income	58	58	..	58	58	..
Can. Pac. Ry.	99½	99¾	99	99¾	99½	100
Connors Bros.	..	..	..	..	..	100
Davies, Wm.	88¾	88¾	..	88¾	88½	..
Dom.Iron & St	57½	59¾	57½	59¾	63	64
Dom. Power	..	..	..	..	96½	..
Dom. Textile	104¾	104¾	..	104¾	104¾	..
Duke Price Po.	99¾	100	99¾	100	99¾	100½
East K. Pow	101	101½	101	101½	100½	102
Elect. Develop.	..	..	..	..	98¾	..
Front'c Brew.	86	86	..	86	..	..
H. Smith Pap	90¾	94½	90¾	94½	..	94½
H. Smith Pap	..	..	..	..	94¾	..
Lake Sup. Pap.	..	..	..	..	105	..
Laurentide Po.	..	..	..	..	97¾	98½
Laurentian Po.	98¾	98¾	..	98¾	98½	..
Maple L. Mill.	..	..	..	..	103½	..
Man. Power	102	102	..	102	101½	102½
Matt. P. Deb.	..	..	..	..	30	40
Mont. Tram.	100½	100¾	..	100½	100¾	101½
Mont. Steel	..	..	..	..	100	..
Montreal Wat.	..	..	..	..	85¾	..
Montreal Wat.	..	..	..	..	94¾	..
Mont.Pub.Ser.	..	..	..	..	93	93½
Nor. Ont. L.	..	..	..	..	97	98½
N.S. Steel	52	65	52	65	75	..
Ont. Pulp	..	..	..	..	106	..
Ottawa Gas	101½	101½	..	101½	102	102¾
Ottawa & Hull	..	..	..	..	100	..
Ottawa Riv. P.	97¾	98¾	97¾	98¾	97½	99¾
Price Bros.	99½	99¾	99¼	99½	99½	..
Paton Mfg.	97	97	96	96½	96	97
Porto Rico Ry.	..	..	..	..	70	..
Prov. of Ont.	..	..	..	..	100¾	101¾
Quebec Power	100¾	101¾	100¾	101½	101	..
Que. Jac. Cart.	..	..	..	..	93	..
Shaw. Cotton	..	..	..	..	..	76
ShawiniganW.	106½	106½	..	106½	..	..
So. Can. Pow.	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½	..
Span. Riv. P	107½	107½	107½	107½	107	107½
St. Law. Flour	..	..	..	..	97½	100
St. Law. Sugar	..	..	..	..	89	..
St. M. V. Cot	..	..	..	..	77½	..
St. Maur.Pow.	106½	106½	106½	106½	106	106½
Windsor Hotel	..	..	..	..	102½	..
West K. Pow.	..	..	..	..	101½	..
Western Power	..	..	..	..	92½	93
Western Pow.	..	..	..	..	99	..

TORONTO SEEKING POWER TO BACK ITS HYDRO BONDS

Alleged Purpose Is to Take System Out of Politics

No little surprise has been occasioned in financial circles by the movement led by the city of Toronto to obtain legislation enabling Ontario municipalities to guarantee the bonds of the Hydro Electric Power Commission for power development purposes in the various municipalities rather than continuing under the guarantee of the provincial government. The alleged purpose of the movement is to place Hydro on an economic rather than a political basis, and to avoid the opposition of any Ontario government which might happen to be hostile to Hydro.

That the action of the city council in recommending the legislation was not the result of mature consideration seems to be indicated by the fact that, rather than pass judgment hastily, the city finance commissioner, and the acting city solicitor, declined to express an opinion until later. Financial circles find it difficult to see the advisability of withdrawing from the credit guarantee of the province, now at the disposal of the municipalities, and to rush into an individual guarantee system which would be extremely uncertain. It is felt that the situation is too complicated to be handled in the way suggested.

Effect on Bond Issues

At the present time the municipalities have the advantage of provincial guarantee and provincial credit. And the latter is an important consideration when a municipality is seeking a loan. The difference is that between the credit standing of the province of Ontario, and that of small municipalities. While it is agreed that the credit of some of the larger cities seems sufficient in itself without the added credit of the province, it is worthy of note that only recently leading investment houses have refused to handle hydro issues of three of the largest Ontario cities, even with the added provincial guarantee. It is difficult to understand how the municipalities hope to carry on their financing to the best advantage without this guarantee. Furthermore, complications which might easily arise, in the case, for example, of an electric railway where one municipality accepted the responsibility, and the next refused to do so.

Reasons Advanced Flimsy

Apart from the question of the results which the advocates of the plan hope to achieve, grave doubt is expressed with regard to the sincerity of the reasons advanced in favor of a change. The feeling of the financial community in this respect seems to be well stated in an open letter sent to the city council of Toronto by the Bureau of Municipal Research, from which the following are exerpts:

"The proposal involves the possible use of the city's credit presumably without the consent of the taxpayers on whom the city's credit depends; and as the city is about to enter on a period of large construction when great demands must be made on the city's credit for essential purposes, the bureau cannot refrain from protesting against such precipitate action. Has the experience of the city in guaranteeing the bonds of other organizations over which the city has little or only partial control been such as to warrant the city in plunging blindly into additional commitments of a similar nature?

"It has been stated that the request for proposed legislation is to obviate any difficulty with a possible future legislature which may be hostile to Hydro. The obvious answer is, that no government is apt to be hostile to Hydro as long as the people of the province are its loyal supporters, and that the life of any government is bound to be short which ignores the wishes of the electors. The supporters of the motion state that the city should be independent of the legislature in this regard. It is a fact, however, that municipalities are and naturally must be creatures of the legislature, and that a "hostile" legislature could readily undo anything which a "friendly" legislature might do. Finally, is it the part of wisdom to assume sole responsibility for liabilities which are now borne jointly with another authority?

Long Term Leases for Prairie Ranchers Again

Long term leases, 21 years, are to be granted Saskatchewan livestock growers on Dominion lands in the province that are unfit for agriculture. The growers have urged for some time that the long-term lease was necessary for the development of the livestock industry. For some years now leases have been but for one year. There was no guarantee of permanency to the rancher with the result that few permanent improvements were made to the various ranches. By the same order 21-year leases still held may be renewed if the lands are unfit for agricultural purposes.

BOND MOVEMENTS OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING MARCH 17

BONDS	Int. Rate	Due Year	Yield	Range 1924 High	Low	Range 1925 High	Low	Latest Price Ask	Bid	High	Low
Asbestos	5	1942	5.44	83½	75	95¾	80¼	95½	93½	95⅛	90
Canada Bread	6	1941	5.69	102½	99	103¼	102	—	103	103¼	—
Canada Cement	6	1929	5.24	103½	100	103¼	101	—	103	103	—
Cedar Rapids	5	1953	5.13	99¾	95	99⅜	97	97⅞	97¾	98⅛	—
Dom. Iron	5	1929	6.97	92½	85	92½	91	—	90	92½	—
Montreal Trams.	5	1941	5.27	95½	91	97	94⅜	97	96½	97	—
Ogilvie (A)	6	1932	5.30	104½	101½	105	104	104½	—	104⅛	—
Penmans	5	1926	5.70	99⅜	95	99	98½	—	98½	99	—
Quebec Rly.	5	1939	5.87	92	80	91½	89¾	—	90	91½	91
Rio Janeiro	5	1935	7.50	87	84	87¼	82	—	87	82	—
Sherwin-Williams	6	1941	5.69	103	101	103½	101¼	103½	103	103¼	—
Wayagamack	6	1951	7.02	86	74	87⅜	84¼	—	87	87¾	87⅜
Winnipeg Elec. Rly.	5	1935	5.97	91½	85⅜	92½	92½	94	92½	92½	—
War Loan	5	1925	3.80	100.95	100.15	101.15	100.70	101.00	100.90	100.90	100.75
Do.	5	1931	4.57	102.40	100.60	102.55	101.90	102.45	102.35	102.50	102.25
Do.	5	1937	4.52	103.85	102.20	104.55	103.80	104.45	104.35	104.55	104.25
Victory Loan	5½	1927	4.37	103.05	102.05	103.05	102.50	103.20	103.10	103.05	102.70
Do.	5½	1933	4.55	106.70	104.30	106.85	105.90	106.90	106.80	106.85	106.65
Do.	5½	1934	4.92	104.70	102.35	104.60	103.30	104.40	104.30	104.50	104.05
Do.	5½	1937	4.57	108.90	106.15	109.05	108.45	109.15	109.05	109.05	109.00
Do. Renewal	5½	1927	4.64	102.70	101.15	102.80	101.70	102.30	102.10	102.35	101.90
Do. "	5½	1932	4.92	103.90	102.10	104.00	103.10	103.80	103.70	103.65	103.35
Do. Refund.	5	1928	4.70	100.85	99.40	101.35	100.85	101.15	101.05	101.05	—
Do. "	5	1943	4.80	102.85	99.00	102.55	101.20	102.50	102.40	102.55	102.15
Do. "	4½	1944	4.75	97.15	97.05	96.80	95.10	96.75	96.65	96.80	96.55

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Municipal and Provincial Finance

ALBERTA LOSS ON IRRIGATION SCHEME MAY BE MILLION

Expert Has Laid Out Scheme of Reorganization

LETHBRIDGE.—General approval is given the Widtsoe recommendations for developing the 105,000 acre Lethbridge Northern irrigation tract, built under provincial guarantee. The Alberta government guaranteed the bonds of the Lethbridge Northern scheme up to $5,400,000, while another advance of $140,000 was made last year to meet maintenance costs. It is stated that the net loss to the province over the whole period calculated to get the project on a self-sustaining basis would be approximately one million dollars, providing the proposals of the Widtsoe report are adopted and prove workable. Dr. Widtsoe, in his report, expresses absolute faith in the ultimate success of the project providing the holdings are reduced, colonization accelerated and production intensified. He says the tract has every chance of success if given a chance.

The report is likely to form the basis of the new irrigation policy of the government, machinery for carrying out the same being introduced this session of the legislature.

The expert's recommendations follow:

Extension of the terms of repayment under the bond guarantee over a period of fifty instead of thirty years.

Maximum capital charges should be $55 an acre, payments on this not to begin until January, 1926, this meaning, in effect, a moratorium for this year.

Construction charges not to exceed $2 an acre for first ten years, and water distribution charges not to exceed $1 per acre to be paid for 1924 and all succeeding years by all, excepting those in "dire need." This means that the annual irrigation charges should not exceed $3 per acre per year. It is believed the farmers by diversifying their crops will be able to meet those rates.

Holdings should not exceed 160 acres. Any holdings in excess of this should be turned over to the provincial government for sale at reasonable prices for colonization purposes.

TORONTO HARBOR ESTIMATES

New capital expenditures of $1,474,753 are called for in the estimates of the Toronto Harbor Commission, recently passed. Of this amount, the greater part or $1,023,000 is to be spent in connection with the construction of the new viaduct.

This Week's Bond Sales

FORT WILLIAM ISSUE

An issue of $100,000 5 per cent. 14½-year bonds of the City of Fort William, due October, 1939, has been sold to Wood, Gundy and Company at 97.68. The tenders include the following:

Wood, Gundy & Company	97.68
A. E. Ames & Company	97.50
Cochran, Hay & Co.	97.47

NORTH GRIMSBY ISSUE

An issue of $30,800, 5½ per cent., 5, 10, 15 and 20 instalment bonds of the Township of North Grimsby have been awarded to Harris, MacKeen & Co., at a bid of 101.91. The bonds were for local improvement. Following is a list of the bids:

Harris, MacKeen & Co.	101.91
Bell, Gouinlock & Co.	101.71
Hanson Bros.	101.87
Goss, Forgie & Co.	101.867
Wood, Gundy & Co.	101.54
McLeod, Young, Weir & Co.	101.18
Harris, Forbes & Co.	101.40
Matthews & Co.	101.71
R. M. Bird & Co.	101.47

BARTON TOWNSHIP BONDS

H. R. Bain and Company were awarded the issue of $12,409, 5½ per cent., 10-year bonds of Barton township on a bid of 103.60. The bids were:

H. R. Bain and Co.	103.60
Dyment, Anderson and Co.	102.918
Toronto Bond Exchange	102.00
Hanson Bros.	102.37
Harris, MacKeen and Co.	103.53
McLeod, Young, Weir and Co.	102.638
A. E. Ames and Co.	103.40
R. A. Daly and Co.	103.27
Municipal Bankers	103.447
C. H. Burgess and Co.	103.18
Wood, Gundy and Co.	103.10
W. C. Brent and Co.	102.81
Murray and Co.	102.78
Matthews and Co.	103.09
Bell, Gouinlock and Co.	102.77
A. Stimson and Co.	102.911
R. M. Bird and Co.	102.81
Dom. Development Corp.	102.78
Gairdner, Clarke and Co.	103.15
Worthington Savage	103.33
McDonagh, Somers and Co.	103.33

WATERLOO BOND ISSUE

Dyment, Anderson & Co. were the successful tenderers for an issue of $139,671, Town of Waterloo 5 per cent. debentures as follows: $94,631, 10 equal annual instalment, $22,561 15 instalment, and $22,478, 20 instalment. The bids were:

Dyment, Anderson & Co.	99.61
Hanson Bros.	99.388
Matthews & Co.	99.33
Waterloo Trust & Savings	99.27
H. R. Bain & Co.	99.27
Harris, Mackeen & Co.	99.27
Cochran, Hay & Co.	99.267
Gairdner, Clarke & Co.	99.17
C. H. Burgess & Co.	99.14
Wood, Gundy & Co.	99.09
Bell, Gouinlock & Co.	99.04
Municipal Bankers Corp.	99.01
Worthington, Savage & Co.	98.865
Murray & Co.	98.79
Macneill, Graham & Co.	98.64
McDonagh, Somers & Co.	98.58
Dominon Securities Corp.	98.51
MacKay & MacKay	98.45
Wm. C. Brent & Co.	98.31
McLeod, Young, Weir	98.28
McCoo, Padmore & Co.	98.36
Dominion Development Corp.	97.82

In addition, McCoo, Padmore & Co., bid 99 for the 10 instalment and 98.5 for the 15. Dominion Development bid 98.75, 10 instalment, and 98.03, 15 instalment.

Operating Provincial Movie Plant Costly

Questions asked in the Ontario legislature brought out details of cost in operating the provincial motion picture plant at Trenton. These are:

Land and building	$30,367
Mach. and equip.	10,738
Maintenance	3,958
Operating Expense	19,322
Total	$64,375

ONTARIO'S HIGHWAYS EXTENDED BY 235 MILES

Last Year's Construction Added Materially to All Varieties of Roads

Interesting light was thrown on the progress made in the construction of highways in the province of Ontario last year when questions bearing on the matter were asked of the minister of highways in the legislative assembly recently.

The replies of the minister contained the information that the total mileage of provincial highways constructed during the year was 234.83. This was made up of 19.04 miles of asphaltic concrete pavement, 70.33 miles of concrete pavement, 24.15 of bituminous penetration, 67.68 of macadam roads, 5.50 miles of macadam base which was uncompleted the previous year, and 48.13 miles of grading. In reply to an enquiry with regard to the relative costs of construction of the various types of road, the minister stated that asphaltic concrete costs from $30,000 to $35,000 per mile; cement concrete averages $23,232 per mile; bituminous penetration, $19,900; macadam, $9,300 per mile, using local stone, and $12,200 per mile when commercial stone is used. Grading costs $1,563 per mile.

With regard to actual contract prices last year, Mr. Henry stated that cement concrete had been contracted on a basis of $23,232 per mile. He also stated that 42.6 miles of guard rails had been constructed during the year, and that approximately one-fifth of a mile of old guard rail had been replaced.

The total mileage of highways in Ontario of all classes, at the end of the fiscal year 1924, according to the last report of the federal commissioner of highways, was 64,248. Ontario came third among the provinces in total mileage, being surpassed by Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The federal government has been making substantial contributions to the provincial highway systems, having contributed $4,751,688 since April, 1920, when the federal aid plan got under way.

Transportation Engineer for Public Consultation

A progressive step has been taken by the Ford Motor Company of Canada, Ltd., in the appointment of a qualified transportation engineer, who will help solve the transportation problems of contractors and builders, and all others whose business necessitates the use of automotive power units.

Costly trucking has ever been a thorn in the side of all users of transportation, whether it be for road building or long road hauls of freight. This problem is of such dimensions that the average firm cannot afford to investigate, and secure in detail, the direct causes of the unnecessarily heavy expense which frequently attends transportation fleets, large or small. Furthermore, the saving effected by having their problems quickly and efficiently solved by an expert, will eliminate much of the expensive guesswork and resultant waste in effort and material which it entails.

POWER FOR SALMON RIVER

VANCOUVER, B.C.—A hydro-electric plant is being planned for the Salmon River mining area, involving an expenditure of about $1,500,000, and financed by American capital. The location of the plant will be at Glacier Bay on the Portland Canal, just below the Salmon River.

Tenders and By-laws

TENDERS WANTED

April 1, Bromley Twp., Ont.—$3,000, 5½%, 10 instalments, school bonds. H. Foley, treas., Douglas.

March 23, St. Lambert, Que.—$40,000, 5½% bonds maturing 1964. J. R. Beatty, Sec. Treas.

Mar. 25, Essex Border Utilities, $382,500, 5¾%, 30-ins. debentures. R. B. Baird, Secretary, Windsor.

Mar. 23, Preston—$46,923, 5½ per cent, 10, 15, 20 and 30-ins. local improvement debentures. Geo. Wurster, Clerk and Treasurer.

April 2, Timmins—$327,556, 5½, 6½ and 7 per cent., 10, 15 and 30-instal. debentures. H. E. Montgomery, Clerk and Treas. (See announcement on page 16).

Mar. 30, Vancouver—$1,000,000, 5 per cent., 15 and 40-year debentures, for various purposes. A. J. Pilkington, City Comptroller. (See announcement on page 16).

Mar. 26, Oshawa—$410,249, 5 per cent., 10 to 30-year debentures for various purposes. P. A. Blackburn, City Treasurer. (See announcement on page 16).

Mar. 31, Ste. Therese School Commission—$45,000, 5½ per cent. serial debentures. Ovide Forget, Sec.-Treas.

DEBENTURE NOTES

QUEBEC.—The city of Quebec's application to the legislature for authorization to borrow $500,000 was cut down to $225,000 by the private bills committee of the provincial house. The sum is to be applied to various public works.

POPULAR PUBLIC FINANCE TO MAKE POSTERITY PAY

Research Institute Uncovers Clever Methods of Evading Debts

The Citizens' Research Institute under the direction of Dr. Horace L. Brittain has just issued an interesting and suggestive pamphlet on the all too prevalent practice by municipalities, of passing on to posterity an unwarranted share of present financial obligations. The pamphlet draws attention to the subtle manner in which "candidates for popular favor are still able to juggle the tax rate with brilliant efficiency, and put off the evil day of financial retribution until at least their own political generation has passed from the scene and left the field to successors who will have to deal with an irate posterity which, luckily, has, during their term, no votes." The article goes on to show how certain municipalities have, in the past, succeeded in making such a policy respectable, and have been able so to cloud the issue that the general public is led to believe that a very efficient and highly satisfactory type of financing is being carried out.

In a summary prefaced by "several favorite ways of getting even with posterity, etc.," the Institute outlines the methods used to pass on debts to the next generation as follows:

1. To borrow from the sinking fund by making insufficient annual levies to keep the fund in an actuarially solvent condition.
2. To secure authority from the legislature to suspend, temporarily, payments into the sinking fund.
3. To invest sinking fund moneys in lands or tax sale certificates of lands which have been taken over by the municipality for taxes.
4. To over-estimate revenue or under-estimate expenditure, or both, for a term of years, sufficient to build up a respectable floating debt from current deficits, and then ask the legislature to permit the funding of the floating debt.
5. To consolidate the debenture debt so as to spread capital repayments over longer terms of years than the periods of the original issues or the life of the work.
6. To refund bonds at maturity.
7. To wait until some patriotic object has been financed and then get the permission of the legislature to include a sufficient sum in the bond issue to be authorized to take care of some current deficits.
8. To bonus industries and then when default on the part of the industries occurs to ask the legislature for authority to fund the deficiency.

No doubt there are many other ways, as human ingenuity displays a remarkable fertility in expedients in the field of public finance. But do these expedients really lighten the burden of those now living? When a debt is incurred, interest and repayment charges begin at once. The average taxpayer probably expects to live ten, fifteen or twenty years, at the end of which periods the "burden saving" debt will have been discharged, at perhaps twice the cost in total payments. Human life is really too long to pass on burdens effectively to posterity. The only way we could do this would be to issue the bonds and then commit suicide.

Municipal Notes

EAST YORK TAKES HYDRO

The township of East York has passed a by-law making provision for the taking over of the municipality's Hydro plant on May 1, and assuming the debt of $334,000 attached to it. Part of this amount is in the form of debentures already issued and $25,000 of it represents the cost of the change.

NORTH SYDNEY ARREARS

SYDNEY.—The town of North Sydney has applied to the Royal Bank for a special loan of $25,000 over and above the legal overdraft to enable it to meet current expenses. The town's tax collections have been dissipated by the severe industrial depression of the past few months, but arrears will be brought up to date as soon as the strike is settled.

PETERBORO COMBINES OFFICES

The new superintendent of city offices for the city of Peterboro commenced the introduction of economies by adding to the usual duties of the city treasurer the responsibility of enforcing prompt collection of all rates, taxes, interest, rentals or other moneys due to the corporation. The chief of police was also made clerk of the police court.

RED DEER FINANCES

The auditor's report of the city of Red Deer for the year 1924 shows current revenue for the year of $148,380 and expenditure of $109,569. The assessed value of taxation for 1925 is $1,440,560. Last year's tax rate was 58 mills. The total of accumulated tax arrears at the end of last fiscal year was $181,338. The total debenture debt of the city is $231,845, against which there is no sinking fund.

QUEBEC MUNICIPAL STATISTICS

The municipal statistics of the various cities and municipalities of the province of Quebec for the year 1923 have just been issued by the provincial secretary, Hon. Athanase David. The report is an exhaustive analysis of all matters of municipal interest such as population, roads, buildings, land valuation and classification, condition of the public services and finances. For purposes of classification the municipalities are either rural or urban. The former are sub-divided into parish and village municipalities, and the latter into town and city municipalities.

WEEKLY RECORD OF GOVERNMENT AND MUNICIPAL BOND SALES.

Place	Date	Purpose	Sold To	Rate	Maturity	Amount	Price	Yield
			MUNICIPAL					
North Grimsby Twp.	Mar.	Improv.	Harris, MacKeen & Co.	5½%	5 to 20 ins.	$ 38,000	101.91	—
Waterloo	Mar.		Dyment, Anderson & Co.	5%	10, 15 and 20 ins.	139,671	99.61	—
Barton Twp.	Mar.		H. R. Bain & Co.	5½%	1935	12,409	103.60	5.03
Winnipeg	Mar.		John McGregor & Baker and City Council	—	—	1,211,000	—	—
Fort William	Mar.		Wood, Gundy & Co.	5%	1939	100,000	97.68	5.22
Kenora	Mar. 9		Gairdner, Clarke & Company	5½%	1955	37,000	101.735	5.38
			CORPORATION					
Simpson's, Ltd.	Mar. 13		Wood, Gundy & Co., and Dom. Secur. Corp.	6½%	1945	$5,600,000	99	6.60%
Saskatch. Creamery & Ice Co.	Mar.		Nay, James and Syndicate	7%	1945	175,000	97.50	7.24%

We deal in—
United Securities 6% Preferred Shares.
C.P.R. 4½'s — 1944
Bell Telephone 5's — 1955
Belgo Paper 6's — 1943
Belgo Paper 7% Preferred Shares.
Quebec Power 6's — 1953
Quebec Railway 5's — 1939
St. Maurice Power 6½'s — 1953
Wayagamack 6's — 1951
Montreal Tram-Power 6's — 1929
Montreal Public Service 5's — 1942
Windsor Hotel 6½'s — 1943
Laurentide Power 5½'s 1946
Cedar Rapids 5's — 1953
Montreal Tramways 5's — 1941
Also Bonds of Provinces and the larger Canadian Cities
RENE-T. LECLERC
Incorporated
Montreal:- 180, St. James St.
Quebec:- 74, St. Peter St.
(ESTABLISHED 1901)

National Cement Company
7% First Mortgage Bonds
Denominations:
$100, $500, $1,000
Coupons:
May 1 and November 1
Principal and interest payable in Canadian or American Funds at the option of the Holder.
EXCEPTIONAL SAFETY and PROFIT
For information apply to
CREDIT-CANADA
Limitee
Investment Bankers
Established in 1910
120, St. James St., Montreal

GOVERNMENT and MUNICIPAL BONDS
W. L. McKINNON & Co
GOVERNMENT AND MUNICIPAL BONDS
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LIMITED
BONDS-INSURANCE-ESTATES
APPRAISALS & FARM LANDS
CALGARY, ALBERTA.

The safe investment of your funds is our chief concern.
H. R. BAIN & Co. Ltd.
Government & Municipal Bonds
371 Bay St. - Toronto

Bond Buyers
The offerings on the lists of our organization represent securities we have selected with strict diligence having in mind safety of principal and prompt and appointed payments.
Send for Latest List.
G. A. STIMSON & CO.
LIMITED
36-38 KING ST. EAST, TORONTO
The Oldest Bond House in Canada

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

PAID TO POLICYHOLDERS
SINCE ORGANIZATION
$183,000,000

Interest rate on funds left on deposit with the Company, 5.4%

WORLD WIDE IN OPERATION — 22 DIVISION OFFICES IN CANADA

HEAD OFFICE : MONTREAL

This Company Offers You Life Insurance at Cost

Do you understand the difference between a Mutual Life insurance company and the ordinary insurance company?

The Mutual Company is organized to give insurance to its policyholders at the cost of carrying on the business. The only members of the company are the policyholders. They lend each other mutual financial support, and no charge is made for this mutual service except to cover actual cost of operation.

The Mutual Life of Canada grew up in this country from a sound if modest foundation of 500 members fifty-five years ago. Today it is one of the strong, stable institutions of Canada, with assurances amounting to more than $295,000,000. The Mutual Life of Canada is the only strictly Canadian Company in Canada offering life insurance at cost.

THE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA : Waterloo, Ont.

817

Are they worth Protecting?

THERE is nothing of greater worth than the life of a child. If it happens to be your child or children, is there anything you would barter for one of them? Do you want any other argument for life insurance than a look into the faces of your own little flock?

Protection with Profit

An Actual Result

In 1904—20 year Endowment Policy P21273 (age 32) issued for $5000.

Maturing 1924, Policyholder draws $7450 Cash—being $2580 more than he paid in premiums.

He had the option of taking $4795 in cash *and* a paid-up policy for $5000.

THE Great-West Life ASSURANCE COMPANY
HEAD OFFICE – WINNIPEG

6

INVEST YOUR SAVINGS
in a 5% DEBENTURE of
The Great West Permanent Loan Company

5% Interest Return

SECURITY

Paid-up Capital	$2,414,663.00
Reserves	1,100,000.00
Assets	6,184,420.00

HEAD OFFICE, WINNIPEG
Branches: Toronto, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Victoria, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Insurance for Buyer and Seller

FRIENDSHIP NOT FACTOR IN SALE OF BIG POLICIES

A Case of Supplying Service to Meet a Need, Says Star Agent

LONDON.—The appearance of Leo Thomas, of Detroit, at a meeting of life underwriters here has given the insurance fraternity something to talk about. Thomas wrote $25,000,000 life insurance in the year 1924. Naturally, when such a man is before a group of men who are fairly well versed in the art of selling insurance, there is the mental comparison on the part of the man in the audience. He is asking himself, "Has this man got anything I haven't? Can he present his case better, or has he a better knowledge of the kind of insurance people ought to have to suit their particular needs?"

The consensus of opinion as far as THE FINANCIAL POST can learn is that the insurance men gathered here were not greatly impressed by what Thomas had to say, or with the way in which he put it, although they are quite ready to give him credit for having turned in a year's work that may be a world's record. Some of the older men in the business were recounting the performance of the late Harry Rosen, who for a number of years wrote around $15,000,000 in New York, and they were expressing grave doubts if Thomas could be as consistent a performer as Rosen was.

Leo Thomas was not brought up in the insurance business. Not long ago he was in the United States navy, and while there had ambitions to be a professional boxer, but found it difficult to get bouts that offered any chance for big money. He is only 32 years of age now, slight build, fair, and gives one the impression of a rather highstrung, nervous temperament. When it came to giving an audience of practical men something that might be termed inspirational, or that would read like a road-sign to a man aiming to get into the big producer class, he had no secrets to tell.

Thomas got the bulk of his $25,000,000 from the three Book Brothers, engineers and contractors of Detroit, having written the three brothers for $5,000,000 each. To get enough companies to handle the amount, he claims it was necessary for him to have about 700 different documents of one kind and another prepared.

Leo Thomas has some views, though, that are quite different to those held by a number of insurance men. He does not think that a man gains much by getting around and making a circle of friends. "That's a waste of time," is his way of dealing with the subject. "I didn't know any of the men personally from whom I got my largest business." Local men questioned on this point don't agree entirely with the view, although a number of them were ready to admit that the element of personal acquaintance was rather overdone.

An official of one of the companies represented at the meeting summed it up in a way that seemed to express the views of most of the underwriters when he said: "Give me the consistent salesman every time. Our experience has been that he is by far the best investment in the long run. His business is secured on the basis of merit without pressure. I consider a quarter of a million a year about the limit in this district for persistent effort. If a man can turn in that amount of business and keep on doing it, he has come to the stage in the insurance world where he can consider that he has actually arrived."

EMPIRE LIFE'S INCREASE

M. P. Langstaff, president of the Empire Life Insurance Co., reports a 50 per cent. increase in business over the corresponding period of last year, with a marked decrease in the expense rate.

Million Dollar Business For the President's Birthday

LONDON.—E. E. Reid, president of the London Life, and Castle Graham, director of field service for the company, have left for a trip to the West, and arrangements have been made for conferences with their agents and staffs at North Bay, Fort William, Winnipeg, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver and Victoria.

Mr. Reid's birthday was on the 10th of March, and the field force celebrated the day with the results of a special effort and turned in over $1,000,000 of new business to celebrate the occasion.

HEAVY FARM LOSSES SCARE COMPANIES

Farmers Complain That Fire Insurance Rates Are Soaring Steadily

That a number of companies do not care to write further policies on farm properties, preferring to pass up the business rather than write them at what they believe to be a certain loss. This statement, credited to the secretary of the Canadian Fire Underwriters, was discussed by the Ontario agricultural enquiry committee in dealing with the claim advanced by certain farmers that fire insurance companies were effectually shutting them out by increased rates. The committee expressed the opinion that the situation demanded a practical investigation in order to further methods of prevention of much of the alarming fire loss suffered in Ontario to crop and farm property, as well as to determine a better plan of rural insurance against fire hazard.

Barn fire losses in Ontario increased from $1,124,403 in 1919 to $2,599,812 in 1923, an increase of 131 per cent., while general fire losses showed an increase in the same period of 78 per cent. Barn and fire losses of purely mutual companies have increased considerably more than general fire losses.

FIRE INSURANCE COSTS PROVING A PROBLEM

Maintenance of Engineering Staff to Assist Agents is Attacked

Managers of the insurance companies as a whole realize something must be done to reduce the cost of insurance because, if not, there is serious trouble ahead, as the expense of conducting the fire insurance business will probably average somewhere between 43 to 45 per cent., writes an insurance manager, in regard the present day cost of doing business. This question is about to come before the New York state legislature, so serious has it become across the line. He adds: Some of the companies, in fact, have an expense account in excess of 50 per cent. What is the cause of this?

There are a number of reasons, one of which is the engineering and service which a number of the insurance companies undertake to give the broker or agent in order to help them secure business. Now, why should the insurance companies employ expensive engineers and special agents to send them traveling all around the country in order to help some particular broker or agent to secure a certain account? When a company undertakes to pay a certain commission to the broker or agent it is presumed the commission so paid is to cover the expenses of handling the business by the agent or broker and for the past fifteen years or more one of these expenses has been the cost of the inspecting of the risk. As you know, for the past twenty years the fire insurance business has undergone a great change.

The larger and more successful brokers have inaugurated engineering and inspection departments in order to properly protect the interests of their clients. The maintenance of such departments, of course, not only helps the broker, and the assured but the insurance company. Now, as the commission which the broker and agent receives is considered ample to take care of the handling of the business in a satisfactory manner, including engineering and inspection service, loss adjustment service and also leave a fair remuneration for the agents and brokers: that is, if their business is properly conducted, why should the insurance companies undertake to maintain departments at great expense to furnish similar service free to brokers and agents when they are already allowing for same in the commission paid? It seems an attempt on the part of the companies to help people in the business who are not entitled to such help.

ARE SERVICE STAFFS WORTH THEIR COST?

Fire Insurance Companies Face Question in Regard Maintaining Engineering Staff

Fire insurance companies are now considering the cost of engineering and service departments, to see whether they are worth what they cost, says the National Underwriter, making the point that when a company engineer is obliged to make two or three trips to a town in his efforts to assist an agent in capturing a large risk the expense of the engineer and the commission to the agent combined sometimes bring the acquisition cost up to 50 or 60 per cent. of the premium received on the risk.

It is contended that many agents favor the company with the engineering staff and that companies that do not maintain such departments endeavor to offset the benefits to agents by payment of excess commissions.

This giving of free engineering service is of comparatively modern growth. When large city brokers began to capture the large lines from agents in smaller towns by putting engineers or "schedule sharks" on the risks and showing the owners how they could save on their premiums, agents called upon field men to help them hold their lines, and eventually the companies developed organizations of men engaged entirely in this work of holding risks against brokers or of capturing them from other agents or brokers.

The expense of these engineering departments is really a part of the acquisition cost of business, although it is claimed that the work of the engineers does reduce to some extent the loss ratio and that they secure information of value to the underwriting departments of their companies. One company official, however, questioned whether their services are as valuable to the companies as they would be if they devoted their time to inspection work and learned what risks their companies would better retire from.

Northwestern Mutual Paid Over Million in Dividends

A total of $1,039,722 was paid in dividends to policyholders by the Northwestern Mutual Fire Association in 1924 on 1923 premiums, according to the annual report just issued. These dividends and the increase in the net cash surplus during the year of $87,551, indicate conservative management.

The admitted assets on Dec. 31 amounted to $2,604,266, of which $1,755,575 was in high grade securities and $378,013 cash in office and banks. The reserves for unearned premiums were $1,788,703 and the surplus now stands at $535,953. The net losses paid to policyholders in 1924 totalled $1,379,777. Since organization they have amounted to $10,252,250, while the total dividends paid to date are $7,848,664.

The net premium income in Canada for 1924 was $733,213 and the dividends paid in Canada on 1923 premiums were $175,926. The loss ratio was 41.5 per cent., which indicates a careful underwriting policy, while the expense ratio was 27.4 per cent. The president of the association is F. J. Martin and the manager for Canada, Norman S. Jones.

Increase in Surplus of the Occidental Fire

An increase of $37,171 in surplus as compared with the previous year is shown in the annual report of the Occidental Fire Insurance Co., of Winnipeg. The total surplus is now $333,484 which, with the paid up capital of $200,000, makes a total of $533,484 as a reserve against policies outstanding.

The balance sheet as at December 31, 1924, shows total assets of $890,060 of which $573,710 is bonds and debentures and $82,348 in mortgage loans. Liabilities to the public total $356,575 as against the surplus of $533,484.

MAKE MORE CALLS—IT PAYS

"Whad-ya know about this!" exclaimed the Office Agent, as he looked over his mail. "My little boy was sick last month and the doctor dropped in four or five times to see him. Here's his bill. Twenty dollars! Four dollars a call! That's an awful graft."

"That's nothing," replied Charlie, the counterman. "Figure up the commissions you earned last month: divide that by the number of calls you made—and I'll bet you'll find that you got darn near as much per call as that doctor of yours, who's spent ten years or more getting his training. What's more, you can make as many calls as you please—he can only come when he is asked."

"Gosh, I never thought of that," said the Office Agent. "Guess I'll have to make five extra calls to-day—and pay off this bill!"—Travelers "Protection."

MEDICAL RELIEF FOR ALBERTA

CALGARY.—Non tax-payers in municipal districts of Alberta, will be called upon to contribute one dollar per month each for a medical relief fund if a bill now before the provincial house finds favor. This was sponsored by Hon. George Hoadley, minister of health and agriculture.

The Record of Fire Losses in Canada

Place / Property	Date	Loss	Insurance	Cause
Nova Scotia				
Kingston—C. Ward, res. & store	Feb. 25	heavy	partial	......
Sydney—B. E. Steel Co., factory	Feb. 25	heavy	......	unknown
Hartonville—F. C. Denison, barn and cont.	Feb. 27	8,000	......	......
New Brunswick				
St. John—Ross Drug Co., store	Feb. 26	8,000	covered	unknown
Barker's Point—M. Jordan, house and barn	Feb. 23	3,000	partial	......
St. John—Old Post Office Bldg., stores and offices	Mar. 16	70,000	......	......
Quebec				
Asbestos—V. Dubois, res.	Mar. 2	heavy	partial	wire
Thetford—M. S. Buisson, res.	Mar. 2	4,000	partial	......
Hebertville Station—R. Gagne, store	Mar. 2	30,000	15,000	......
Saint Felicien—C. Gagnon, res.	Mar. 2	15,000	partial	......
Montreal—Plateau School	Mar. 5	8,000	......	......
Ontario				
Fort William—Colonial Theatre bldg.	Feb. 28	8,000	covered	......
Hamilton—T. Galsburg, res.	Feb. 28	1,000	......	......
Humber Bay—J. Kramer, res.	Mar. 11	3,100	partial	......
Stratford—Stratford Chair Co., bldg.	Feb. 27	heavy	......	......
Strathroy—Wright Piano Co., bldg.	Feb. 24	6,000	partial	......
Trenton—W. H. Ireland, grocery store	Feb. 28	3,000	partial	......
Oshawa—Joe Welsh, bakery, Miss Richardson, confec.	Mar. 10	20,000	......	......
Toronto—F. Orenso, store	Mar. 9	1,500	......	......
Ottawa—C. A. Roy, residence	Mar. 3	20,000	partial	unknown
Charleville—Mrs. J. Kingston, barn & cont.	Mar. 5	heavy	......	......
Chatham—N. Huxley, barn	Mar. 12	1,500	......	lightning
Springford—Mrs. Monk, res.	Mar. 5	7,000	......	......
Ingersoll—H. D. Batchelor, barn	Mar. 5	heavy	1,000	......
Long Branch—F. Burke, garage	Mar. 12	800	300	......
Toronto—H. Boyle, garage and car	Mar. 13	3,500	......	gasoline
Smith's Falls—Mr. Bradley repair shop	Mar. 14	5,000	......	......
Ft. William—R. S. Pipe, store	Mar. 14	5,000	......	......
Port Arthur—G. H. Reid, Webb block, stores	Mar. 5	50,000	partial	......
St. Thomas—G. R. Rind, stores	Mar. 5	5,000	......	......
Hurkett—F. Krafner, store	Mar. 4	8,000	partial	......
Toronto—R. Dack, J. D. McCrimmon, factory	Mar. 16	heavy	......	......
Manitoba				
Weldon—Mrs. Olson, res.	Feb. 24	3,500	......	unknown
Winnipeg—R. Beliveau Wire Co., bldg.	Mar. 12	175,000	......	unknown
Saskatchewan				
Saskatoon—Univ. of Sask. bldg.	Mar. 14	300,000	150,000	......
Alberta				
Redcliffe—M. Woodman, store	Mar. 5	heavy	$1,000	......
Pincher Creek—W. Simpson, barn	Mar. 6	heavy	partial	......
Blairmore—A. Brockwell, residence	Mar. 5	heavy	partial	......
British Columbia				
Smithers—Fotherley's store and offices	Feb. 20	10,000	covered	......
Pinantan—J. B. Stewart, res.	Mar. 3	2,000	partial	......

THE CANADA NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

HEAD OFFICE: WINNIPEG, CANADA
TOTAL ASSETS $2,928,337.62

TORONTO, 24 Adelaide St. W.

W.H. GEORGE
Superintendent of Agencies

A Debt To Yourself

If your business, your home, your car, are not fully insured against fire, theft, and accident, there is a debt to yourself still unpaid.

Policies may be secured with this Company which protect all your effects against any form of loss.

The Western Assurance Company of Toronto

Established 1851

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PRUDENTIAL TRUST COMPANY
LIMITED

Trustees, Executors, Administrators, Real Estate and Insurance, Safety Deposit Vaults.

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MUTUAL LIFE'S NEW MARK

The Mutual Life of Canada passed the $300,000,000 mark in volume of business.

The Independent Order of Foresters
Organized 1874

TOTAL BENEFITS
Paid to Members and their Beneficiaries
$81,000,000.00

Policies Issued from $1,000 to $5,000

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DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR BONDS
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"A Straight Line is the Shortest Distance between Two Points."

That, in geometry, is an axiom—a self-evident truth. The same quotation may be applied to investment. The steady accumulation of your savings invested in sound bonds is the shortest route to independence.

Municipal Bankers 5¾% Bonds

will help you and there will be no backward step if you confine your investments to these "time-tested" Bonds.

Backed as they are, Dollar for Dollar, by Government and Municipal Bonds and Selected Mortgages, Municipal Bankers Bonds represent the soundest form of security, and return a rate of interest consistent with the safety they represent.

Bonds may be secured in amounts of $100, $500 and $1,000.

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Government, Municipal and Mortgage Bonds
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Rivals the beauty of the Scarlet Tanager

8 Men out of 10

Picked the Duofold Blindfolded

From 11 New Pens of Different Makes

"I believe that the hand can tell this super-smooth writer sight unseen," declared a Duofold owner—and he proved it!

YES, ten men, chosen at random, agreed to make this test with 11 large pens obtained from dealers' stocks; and were blindfolded in the presence of several witnesses.

Each man wrote with all 11 pens, one by one, on an ordinary note pad. And one by one he laid them all aside until only a single pen remained in his hand—the pen he ranked as the smoothest, most inspiring writer.

Then the blindfold was removed. And man after man, with but two exceptions, glanced down to behold in his hand the flashing black-tipped lacquer-red Parker Duofold, with 25-year guaranteed point.

Never before a pen selection so unbiased as this. No one behind a counter to urge this pen or that. Not even the Duofold's famed name or handsome color visible, to sway the hand's Simon-pure judgment.

You, too, can tell this super-smooth point with your eyes shut. Step to the nearest pen counter now and try it.

The Parker Fountain Pen Co., Limited
Factory and General Offices
Toronto, Ontario
Duofold Pencils to match: Lady, $3
Over-size Jr., $3.50; "Big Brother" Over-size, $4

Parker Duofold $7
With The 25 Year Point
Duofold Jr. $5 Same except for size
Lady Duofold $5 With ring for chatelaine

Australia. — The Australian Government has decided to continue for a period of three years the existing prohibition on the importation into Australia of sugar produced from cane grown by black labor.

PROBLEMS OF THE ASBESTOS MERGER MORE THAN LEGION

Proposed Mode of Operation Said to Have Catch in It

From Our Own Correspondent

MONTREAL. — The news that those who are behind the asbestos merger are again active and are showing some disposition to meet the terms demanded by two of the larger and more successful of the Canadian companies, has leaked through from New York. It was this news which pushed the preferred stock of Asbestos Corporation up seven points last week.

There are two schools of thought on the situation. The first group, and they are a small minority, say that they expect early developments in the situation—possibly they base their conclusions on the fact that Dillon, Reid, of New York, who have been working on the scheme have not done six months' work for nothing. The second group feel that there will be no real developments until summer, until further details and negotiations can be worked out. This latter group—and they are close to the companies—say that as Asbestos Corporation has its president and some directors overseas, there can be no developments until they return. It is also said that Asbestos Corporation and another company, a close corporation, are holding out for better terms. The Corporation is well situated to ask for good terms, for it is probably in a better position than any mine in the field, having not only a first class property, but also a new mill, which operates more efficiently and economically than any other in the Thetford districts.

Merger Has Difficulties

Of the many difficulties facing the merger, there is one in particular which has not been properly understood by the public. There are two types of asbestos operators. Those who mine the mineral and sell it wherever the best market can be found and those who own or control their plants as well as mines either here, or in the United States. This last group mine the asbestos and manufacture a certain proportion of it. The remainder they regard as a by-product, and it is dumped on the market for what it will bring. It is this dumping which has handicapped other producers, who only mine and do not manufacture.

Under the merger, all the producers, with the exception of those who manufacture the finished product from their own mines, would amalgamate. Those who manufacture would turn over their surplus asbestos to the merger, which will simply act as sales agents. The plan is to raise the prices of some of the lower grades—prices of the high grades cannot be put up because of the competition from South Africa. It is hoped that combining in this way will give operators a fair profit on what they produce.

Where the Catch Is

Persons directly interested in the scheme say there is a catch. Here is what some predict: With the merger an accomplished fact, prices will immediately go up for the raw material, and the manufacturer will pass on the rise in price to the consumer. Will the consumer pay the increased price when he can buy from those who both manufacture and mine, and whose raw material is still taken from the ground at the old prices? In other words, there are those who feel that the merger will, through the raising of prices simply reduce the size of the sales, as some of the independent American manufacturers will be put out of business; so that the last state of the companies will be worse than the first—or at the best, no better.

Two of the independent operators in the field are at present making a profit, and, consequently, the demands which they make seem high to some of the companies which are only mining under the greatest of financial difficulties.

The recent news from the States, that negotiations were again in full swing, some take as being indicative of the fact that some of those who manufacture and mine have definitely decided to enter more completely into the merger, and in this way it is hoped that one of the difficulties will be surmounted.

Latest reports from New York are to the effect that representatives of Asbestos Corporation met in conference with Dillon, Read last week, and it now appears as if a basis of agreement which would be acceptable to the corporation were in the process of formation. The Asbestos Corporation has been a stumbling block in the way of the final closing of this deal, and just at the time when this difficulty seems in the process of being ironed out, the Consolidated Asbestos Corporation, headed by Sir Mortimer Davis, is said to be kicking over the traces and demanding more favorable terms.

Holt Renfrew Co. Had Much Improved Year

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL.—Holt, Renfrew, annual report shows an improvement in both earnings and position of the company. Net profits were $115,715 against $86,535 for the preceding year. The liquid position is stronger than at the end of 1923 with current assets and current liabilities being in the ratio of about 20 to 1.

Bank loans which stood at $100,000 in 1923 are eliminated and the asset of real estate and equipment, which is shown at $840,000, is considerably below the value of the company's property holdings. Cash on hand is up $19,000 to $109,369. After the payment of the preferred dividend of 7 per cent. there remained $45,715, which was credited to profit and loss account, and which is equivalent to earnings of over 4½ per cent. on the common stock.

Although Holt, Renfrew and Company do a certain amount of wholesale business, the bulk of their business is in the retail end. The showing for the year is considered to be exceptionally good, as the statement covers a period in which the public were quite conservative in their buying habits.

	1924-25	1923-24
Oper. prof. less	$194,115	$186,240
Taxes, deprec.	21,450	23,754
Interest	49,291	63,034
Bd. disc. etc.	7,659	3,000
Inc. tax	......	9,917
Net profit	$115,715	$ 86,535
Pfd. div.	70,000	......
Surplus	$ 45,715	$ 86,535
Prev. surp.	248,800	162,236
P. & L. bal.	$294,515	$248,800

Working Capital

	1925	1924
Curr. assets	$1,284,507	$1,365,277
Cur. liab.	65,848	211,774
Net work. capital	$1,218,659	$1,158,503

Saskatchewan Mortgage Faced Difficult Conditions

In presenting the annual report of the Saskatchewan Mortgage & Trust Corporation, A. E. Whitmore, the president, stated that the directors had looked conditions straight in the face and where doubtful securities might exist marginal amounts had been written off. This no doubt accounts for the reduction in income and the deductions made in the following summary of the profit and loss account:

	1924	1923	1922
Earnings	*$28,523	$ 64,109	$ 83,214
Expenses	....	39,613	23,819
Taxes	1,095	417	549
Res. for taxes	......	1,945	5,477
Written off.	16,004	......	7,801
Office alter.	7,163	......	......
	24,262	41,975	37,646
	4,261	22,134	45,568
Bal. forward	8,755	19,499	6,396
	$ 13,016	$ 41,633	$ 51,964
Distribution—			
Dividends	......	31,924	23,787
Int. on stock	706	955	1,177
Reserve	9,617	...	7,500
Balance	2,692	8,754	19,499
	$ 13,016	$ 41,633	$ 51,964

*Expenses deducted.

Six Years' Earnings

Year	Paid-up Capital	Net Profits	Div.	% Profits av. Cap	Earn. Rate
1924	$832,875	$ 4,261	.	0.5	0.4
1923	831,939	22,134	4	2.8	2.3
1922	829,427	45,568	3	5.7	4.9
1921	826,814	50,793	6	6.5	5.5
1920	824,070	50,944	6	6.6	5.7
1919	808,705	56,699	6	7.7	6.6

The president also points out that while conditions in the farming industry in Western Canada were good in spots so far as returns go they were poor and indifferent generally speaking north of the main line of the C. P. R. Prices were high but the returns and grades were lower than in 1923. It followed that on certain farm mortgages the company was obliged to carry over interest and principal repayments for yet another year.

NORTH TORONTO SEWERAGE

Plans for the North Toronto sewerage system were passed last week by the civic committee on works, after the delay of more than a year, while an independent report was made at the request of ratepayers. The system will cost the city approximately $5,000,000 and the ratepayers of North Toronto another $5,000,000, exclusive of a $1,000,000 sewage disposal plant.

General Building Increase is Shown by Permits

Building permit applications in Canada for February indicate a strong upward tendency in the volume of building, the total for 48 cities for the month being $2,000,000 higher than in the same month last year while the total for January and February is $2,200,000 in excess of the same period in 1924. The first part of last year was a busy one for building, the total of $6,631,000 for the first two months being well above the average for the year. The total for the same period this year is $8,832,000. The bulk of the increase has taken place in Eastern Canada and during the past month, the February figures for 33 Eastern cities showing an advance of $1,890,000 while 15 Western cities bettered their record of a year ago by $141,000. Taking the two months' total, the gain in the East amounts to $1,851,000 or a little less than the February gain while the Western advance is $349,903.

The two largest cities, Montreal and Toronto, show gains well over the million mark for the year to date, Montreal in February, falling slightly under a total of $2,000,000 in permits. About the only serious decline is Port Arthur, which last year had a large grain elevator launched at the first of the year which materially boosted the figures.

The permit figures would indicate that conditions are not the brightest in the Maritimes as only one of five cities shows an increase. Quebec has three out of four, while in Ontario advances were scored by fifty per cent. of the cities reported on. Building is much better in the West, ten of the fifteen cities showing a better building record this year as compared with last.

The figures:

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED IN FEBRUARY

EASTERN CITIES

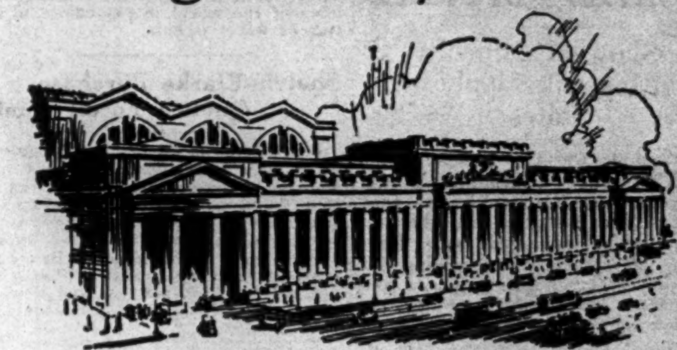
	February 1925	February 1924	Change	2 Months 1925	2 Months 1924	Change
Maritime —						
Halifax	$33.560	$183,410—	$149,850	$ 34,750	$199,742—	$164,992
Moncton	26,150	3,200+	22,950	28,450	7,286+	21,164
New Glasgow	Nil	Nil	....	Nil	Nil	....
St. John	5,400	650+	4,750	17,900	46,550—	28,650
Sydney	300	135+	165	300	16,235—	15,935
Quebec—						
Montreal	1,983,668	671,985+	1,311,683	2,748,903	1,396,765+	1,352,138
Quebec	68,420	45,215+	23,205	80,620	219,580—	138,960
Sherbrooke	20,700	5,000+	15,700	44,700	5,000+	39,700
Westmount	201,200	6,000+	195,200	253,525	6,000+	247,525
Ontario—						
Brantford	3,340	1,325+	2,015	14,840	8,350+	6,490
Chatham	1,800	9,800—	8,000	1,800	26,000—	24,200
Fort William	11,060	12,400—	1,340	17,810	28,100—	10,290
Galt	1,300	....+	1,300	7,200	75+	7,125
Guelph	28,550	7,685+	20,865	29,850	7,825+	22,025
Hamilton	170,550	82,850+	87,700	230,350	188,650+	41,700
Kingston	515	13,500—	12,985	1,840	14,045—	12,205
Kitchener	37,860	13,710+	24,150	77,460	87,335—	9,875
London	28,525	61,670—	33,145	73,785	297,070—	223,285
Niagara Falls	30,730	4,150+	26,580	63,055	23,575+	39,480
Oshawa	8,450	26,050—	17,600	16,170	34,300—	18,130
Ottawa	91,017	93,600—	2,583	347,217	101,000+	246,217
Owen Sound	Nil	Nil	....	Nil	Nil	....
Peterborough	5,475	....+	5,475	5,475	3,625+	1,850
Port Arthur	3,795	915+	2,880	5,160	854,853—	849,693
Sarnia	48,310	21,605+	26,705	69,915	50,310+	19,605
Sault Ste. Marie	2,600	18,000—	15,400	3,300	20,050—	16,750
Stratford	38,840	2,730+	36,110	39,665	7,375+	32,290
St. Catharines	11,200	11,831—	631	17,575	77,406—	59,831
St. Thomas	830	1,500—	670	4,405	7,225—	2,820
Toronto	1,054,935	787,289+	267,646	2,898,290	1,582,306+	1,315,984
Welland	2,905	9,050—	6,145	3,055	10,550—	7,495
Woodstock	3,138	2,470+	668	5,432	2,600+	2,832
York Township	167,350	104,100+	63,250	318,650	280,200+	38,450
Total 33 East. Cities	$4,092,473	$2,201,825+	$1,890,648	$7,461,447	$5,609,983+	$1,851,464
*Border Cities	206,700	....	....	....	....	....

WESTERN CITIES

	February 1925	February 1924	Change	2 Months 1925	2 Months 1924	Change
Manitoba—						
Brandon	$ 5,000	Nil+	$ 5,000	$ 5,800	$ 4,350+	$ 1,450
St. Boniface	22,225	2,840+	19,385	22,285	3,140+	19,145
Winnipeg	127,150	88,800+	38,350	206,150	189,750+	16,400
Alberta—						
Calgary	45,000	14,800+	30,200	93,550	30,800+	62,750
Edmonton	11,790	110,095—	98,305	21,665	120,875—	99,210
Lethbridge	4,471	1,570+	2,901	4,721	4,925—	204
Medicine Hat	....	225—	225	145	365—	220
Saskatchewan—						
Moose Jaw	16,650	3,395+	13,255	17,050	3,595+	13,455
Regina	14,050	13,275+	780	32,400	24,785+	7,615
Weyburn	Nil	Nil	....	Nil	Nil	....
Yorkton	5,000	250+	4,750	8,000	350+	7,650
British Columbia—						
Nanaimo	4,800	7,800—	3,000	8,600	11,700—	3,100
New Westminster	46,675	45,775+	900	59,450	51,910+	7,540
Vancouver	458,925	326,740+	132,185	794,735	523,555+	271,180
Victoria	29,338	33,826—	4,488	96,583	51,131+	45,452
Total 15 West. Cities	$791,074	$649,391+	$141,683	$1,371,134	$1,021,231+	$349,903
Grand Total 48 Cities	$4,883,547	$2,851,216+	$2,032,331	$8,832,581	$6,631,214+	$2,201,367

*Include: Windsor, Walkerville, Ford, Sandwich, Riverside.

Lehigh Valley Service



to the

Pennsylvania Station
(32nd St. & 7th Ave.)
New York

All through trains of the Lehigh Valley Railroad leaving Toronto via Can. Nat'l. Rys, arrive at the **Pennsylvania Station in the heart of New York City,** near hotels, theatres, subways, business and shopping districts. Long Island Railroad trains use the same station, affording convenient connections to Long Island points.

Tickets, reservations and information at City Ticket Office, Canadian National Railways, or Lehigh Valley Office, 13 King Street West.

Lehigh Valley Railroad
The Route of The Black Diamond

Northwestern Mutual Fire Association

Dividends to Policyholders Exceed One Million Dollars

$1,039,722.46 paid in 1924 on 1923 premiums

A STATEMENT YOU CAN UNDERSTAND
As of December 31st, 1924

ASSETS

Cash in Office and Banks	$ 378,012.67
Securities	$ 1,755,575.34
These securities consist of U. S. Government, state and municipal bonds and other securities of the highest grade, including Dominion of Canada and Provincial Issues.	
Premiums in Course of Collection	$ 437,354.53
All accounts over 90 days old are excluded. This represents a normal amount of live current accounts equalling only about 35 days' gross premiums.	
Miscellaneous Assets	$ 33,323.59
Consisting of interest accrued on bonds; amounts due from other insurance companies, etc.	
Total Admitted Assets Belonging to Policyholders	$ 2,604,266.13
From these assets we have excluded all furniture and fixtures, automobiles, printing plant, supplies, premium accounts over 90 days old, and all other assets not quickly convertible into cash.	

LIABILITIES

Reserve for Losses in Process of Adjustment	$ 123,889.13
Reserve for unearned Premiums	$ 1,788,703.13
While the reserve is set up on a Stock Company basis, in a Mutual Company loss claims are a first claim thereon. The sum is more than three times the amount that will be needed if losses are no more than our average experience.	
Reserve for Funds held under Re-insurance Agreements	$ 44,887.50
Reserve to Cover all other Liabilities	$ 110,833.35
This is a reserve to cover taxes accrued, dividends accrued on expired policies and all other current liabilities, other than losses.	
Net Cash Surplus (1924 increase, $87,551.34)	$ 535,953.02
This being the net amount left after providing for all reserves as above.	
Total	$ 2,604,266.13

1924

Net Losses Paid to Policyholders	**$ 1,379,777.27**
Dividends and Savings to Policyholders	**$ 1,039,722.46**

SINCE ORGANIZATION

Losses Paid to Policyholders, United States and Canada	**$10,252,249.67**
Dividends and Savings to Policyholders, United States and Canada	**$ 7,848,663.65**

CANADIAN BUSINESS, 1924

Net Premium Income	$ 753,213.03
Loss Ratio	41.5
Expense Ratio	27.4
Dividends Paid to Policyholders on 1923 Premiums	$ 175,925.52

This Company transacts business only direct with the property owner. All risks are carefully selected. Twenty-three years' record shows losses and expenses less than average of all Companies. All policies are absolutely non-assessable and bear dividends, which have never been less than 25%. Present rates of dividend 25% to 40% according to class.
Correspondence invited.

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F. J. MARTIN President | **NORMAN S. JONES** Manager for Canada | **R. J. MAHONY** Associate Manager

EXPORTED POWER UNLIKELY TO BE EVER RETURNED

War Showed Difficulty of Cutting Off Supply to States

From Our Own Correspondent.

MONTREAL. — Through actual past experience, Canada knows that power, once exported, is not likely to be brought into use again here. During the war Ontario was crying for more power for munition plants and to conserve, blocks of street lighting were cut off, advertising signs darkened, and all unnecessary use of power stopped, yet at the time thousands of horsepower were flowing to the United States from the Canadian side of Niagara Falls. Contracts had been arranged; industry in the States depended on Canadian power and the government did not consider it expedient to prohibit its export!

If, at the time of Canada's direst need it was unable to procure power generated in its own power-houses, what chance would there be for the country to regain power in say 1950, for which we gave a 25-year export license in 1925?

Other Considerations

One other point in connection with the power embargo seems to have escaped attention. When foreign capital has stepped in and developed and exported our water powers, there is but one place for our own corporations to turn for these future requirements. In the meantime foreigners will have snapped up those situations where power may be developed most cheaply. This is exactly the situation which obtains in Switzerland to-day.

The Water Power Branch at Ottawa has issued a bulletin on water power resources. In the last ten years, the population has increased 22 per cent., yet the horsepower of the hydro-electric developments has increased almost 100 per cent.

Since 1910 our installed horsepower has grown from 975,000 to 3,569,275 h.p., and by the end of 1925 will reach at least a total of 4,100,000 h.p. These figures will serve to show, in a small way, how rapid has been the growth of the industry. There seems to be little chance of over expansion, for plants, even as they are being built, often sell their entire output. This is one of the reasons which has contributed in making securities in power companies so popular with the investor.

As to the benefit which Canada will obtain through allowing others to exploit her resources, it is well to remember that only 13 per cent. of the total cost of development, application and use of hydro power is spent on the actual development work, and that only 2 1/3 per cent. of the wages of any hydro power company goes to employees at the originating plant. Canada will receive but little benefit from foreign development and exportation of her powers.

Total Investment

The present investment of capital in hydraulic power plants here is estimated at $767,000,000. Of this amount, 68 per cent. comes from Canada, 6 per cent. from the United Kingdom, 14 per cent from the United States and 12 per cent from other countries.

Some of our outstanding electric engineers estimate that all our power will be in use within a generation.

Some of the larger and more outstanding developments in Canada during the past year are as follows:

BRITISH COLUMBIA	H.P.
B.C. Electric commenced installation at Stave Lake dam of ..	15,000
B.C. Electric diverted waters at Alouette Lake to provide water for power house with a capacity of	12,000
W. Kootenay Power & Light Co. commenced construction of new plant which will have an ultimate capacity of	40,000
Dominion Park branch commenced operation of a plant for general purposes at Banff of	960
City of Winnipeg provided for the installation of three additional units at Winnipeg River station of total capacity of..	21,900
Ontario	
Ontario Hydro-Electric increased the capacity of the Nipigon plant by	50,000
Increased capacity of Queenston (Ontario Hydro-Electric)	110,000
Increased capacity at Eugenia Falls (Ontario Hydro-Electric)	2,000
New Stations built by Hydro—	
Bingham Chute	1,200
Trent River	8,000
The Canadian Niagara Power Co. installed a new unit of	12,500
Hollinger Gold Mine completed a development of	24,000
Smith Bay Power Co. added	2,750
Backus-Brooks Company added.	12,000
Quebec	
The St. Maurice Power Co. added to their output	140,000
M. L. H. & P. Co. added	22,000
St. Regis Paper Co. added	600
Town of Buckingham added ...	600
Town of Bagotville added	1,350
Town of Jonquiere added	1,800
Ottawa & Hull Power Co. added	7,500
Maritimes	
N.S. Power Commission added..	12,000

Available Powers

The known available water power in Canada, from all sources, is 18,255,000 h.p. for conditions of ordinary minimum flow and 32,076,000 h.p. under a flow estimated for maximum development, i.e., dependable for at least 6 months of the year. The figures quoted indicate that the present recorded water power resources of the Dominion will permit of a turbine installation of 41,700,000 h.p. The total installation to date in waterwheels and turbines through the Dominion is 3,569,275 h.p. This is apportioned to the following uses: 2,696,-997 h.p. in central electric stations for general distribution for domestic, municipal and commercial lighting and power purposes; 508,039 h.p. installed in pulp and paper mills; in addition there is used in pulp and paper mills 228,755 h.p. purchased from central electric stations; 369,239 h.p. installed in industries other than central electric stations and pulp and paper mills. The total installation for the Dominion averages 386 h.p. per thousand population, a figure which places Canada among the leading countries of the world in per capita utilization of water power.

Shelvin-Clarke Purchase Quetico Forest Timber

Shelvin-Clarke Co. has again figured in an Ontario timber deal. Questions in the Ontario legislature brought out the fact that the concern recently purchased the timber on the Quebec forest reserve. The price paid was lower than that fixed by Justice Logie in the action of Drury government against the Shelvin-Clarke people, but was $6.60 per thousand above the upset price. There were two tenders.

TORONTO TRADE BOARD FOR GET-TOGETHER IDEA

Co-operative Plan to Deal With Problems is Suggested

The Toronto board of trade, conscious of the present divergence of opinion and lack of enthusiastic co-operation between the various provinces, propose that an effort should be made to remedy, if possible, this condition.

With this end in view this board is endeavoring to foster a get-together plan amongst the various boards of trade in the Dominion. It is felt that possibly by a series of addresses delivered in various parts of the country by men of independent thought and acknowledged ability, the ground work may be formed for expert investigation of certain national problems from which it may be found that all provinces could agree on certain fundamentals connected with the economic life of this country. A letter being sent out by President S. B. Gundy to the boards of trade throughout the country suggests:

It occurs to us, merely as a tentative suggestion, that the boards of trade in each province, either collectively or individually, might conduct investigations of whatever national problems they consider of the greatest importance, under the guidance of a non-partisan committee of the most competent men available and with the assistance of experts in each topic to be studied. The recommendations or conclusions resulting from such studies should, we feel, after adoption by the provincial or local committee, be submitted to a National Committee. If then it should transpire that by wise concessions, each to the other, unity could be reached from Halifax to Vancouver, legislation, if necessary, would follow, making effective a new National Policy which might lead to prosperity for all.

Benson & Hedges (Canada) report sales for the month of January amounting to $36,764 as compared with $49,548 for the same month last year. Aggregate sales from April 1, 1924, to January 31, 1925, amounted to $811,368, compared wtih $1,016,378 last year.

The Saskatchewan Loan Maintained Earnings

Earnings of the Saskatchewan Loan & Investment Co. for 1924 showed little change. They were slightly higher than the dividends paid. Following are comparative figures:

	1924	1923	1922
Earnings	$ 29,163	$ 29,720	[illegible]
Expenses	4,832	4,992	[illegible]
Income tax	2,01	2,251	[illegible]
	$ 6,893	$ 7,243	[illegible]
Net income . ..	$ 22,270	$ 22,477	[illegible]
Excess tax prov.	....	....	[illegible]
Bal. forward ..	10,876	10,319	[illegible]
	$ 33,145	$ 32,796	[illegible]
Dividends	22,319	21,921	[illegible]
Balance	10,826	10,875	[illegible]
	$ 33,145	$ 32,796	[illegible]

Wise cutting, not miserly hoarding — is sound conservation.

"Miserly hoarding is not conservation. In the case of the forests it is merely wasting something that might as well have been used.

"A forest is not destroyed by sound cutting: it is improved and made productive.

"The proposed Pulpwood Embargo is not a reasonable regulation of our own resources. It is an arbitrary interference with Private interests on which we have absolutely no claim."

These striking statements, made by Ralph P. Bell, the chief public champion of the anti-embargo forces, are a forceful challenge to some popular misconceptions that have grown up around the Embargo controversy.

"AN unmanaged forest," he explains, "is an unproductive forest. There is a type of woodlot where the growth is so dense that the young seedlings are smothered. The forest floor is bare. The trees, also, depend on their united strength for protection from the wind. Start cutting this forest, and you must cut clean, or the trees remaining will blow down. And if it is cut, there is no young growth to replace it. It will take, literally, sixty to a hundred years before it is again ready for cutting. Even then it may be seeded to a comparatively worthless growth.

Had this same forest been properly managed, and the mature growth cut, the forest would have reproduced itself in kind; and in thirty to fifty years would have produced its second crop, with a root system that would protect itself against the wind.

In this wise management we profit, not only in what we are able to take from the forest; but in the protection of the percentage that might, otherwise, have been added to the appalling item of sheer waste, that the Embargists state is 90% of our total annual consumption.

The Embargo advocates emphasize the necessity of saving *our* forest heritage.

"Why do people keep harping on that word, 'our' all the time," Bell demands, "our forest—our land—our national heritage? The forests they would Embargo are not ours at all. They belong to men who have slaved, and suffered unbelievable hardships for them. Every time the paper companies speak of their wood resources, they speak of the 'interests of our shareholders'; but when they refer to timber owned by the man with a little, freehold plot, they speak of 'our national resources'. They aren't *our* resources at all, they are *his*, and only his."

"But," the ready objector interposes, "if our forests are cut down, indiscriminately, all Canadians suffer."

"Yes," Bell retorts, "and if your big businesses get themselves into a jam, you are going to suffer, too. But you don't tell them that their business is a national resource, and that, therefore, you have a right to interfere in its management. 'No. They are private enterprises', you say. I tell you the woodlot owner's trees are quite as much *his* private enterprise.

"As for indiscriminate cutting. Do you think the woodlot owner is a fool? Do you think he will throw away his capital. He has been born and bred among trees. They are his business. You have no more right to tell him where or how he shall sell these trees, than he has to tell you how you shall run your affairs."

"But will an Embargo prevent the woodlot owner selling his trees?"

RALPH P. BELL
Vice-President, Canadian Pulpwood Association.

"AS pulpwood, yes; as lumber, no. And is it reasonable to believe that a tree cut for pulpwood will decimate forest resources more than the same tree cut for lumber? If the conservation argument is an honest one, shouldn't its advocates say: 'We must save the tree,' not, 'We must save the tree from becoming pulpwood.'"

"The cases are not quite similar," someone objects. "One is a manufactured product, and gives work to Canadian workmen, the other is an unmanufactured product."

"That is a popular misconception," Mr. Bell states. "Consider the actual facts."

"Two neighboring woodlot owners can each cut, from their woodlot, logs scaling 34 cords. One sells to a pulpwood dealer and is offered $8.50 in the rough or $11.00 peeled. He accepts the latter figure; and he and his sons cut and peel the logs and receive for that work $2.50 a cord more than for rough pulpwood. His neighbor takes his logs to the sawmill, and they are sawed into rough lumber. For this he pays the mill $5.00 per thousand feet. It takes two cords of his logs to make a thousand feet. The cost of turning these into rough lumber is, therefore, $2.50 a cord, and it goes to the mill. The cost of turning the logs into sap peeled pulpwood is $2.50 a cord; and it goes to the owner. There is the same manufacturing cost, and the same manufacturing effort in each case.

"More than that—It takes two cars to hold those 34 cords of pulpwood; while the 17,000 feet of boards that are derived from the other 34 cords are loaded on one car. The railroads receive twice as much freight return from the pulpwood as they do for the lumber.

"Yet the proposed Embargo says, in effect, 'you may not sell your logs as pulpwood; you may not thus secure for yourself and your sons, employment for an idle season. But you may cut your logs into rough lumber. You may throw away fifty per cent. of their cubic content in actual waste. You may load only one car, where you might have loaded two. That is our idea of the way to conserve Canada's great national heritage.'"

Moving the American Mill

"But," say the advocates of an Embargo, "this measure will bring new mills to Canada."

"Are you quite sure," asks Mr. Bell, "that having shut off the American buyer from a small part of his supply, he will at once decide to secure it at any cost, and will consequently move his mill to Canada? If *you* were thus slapped in the face, would *you* pocket your pride as you are expecting him to do?"

"We might, if we had to," someone suggests.

"Obviously," Bell retorts, "but they *don't* have to. At the present time they have three times our forest resources. We import enormous quantities of lumber from them every year.

"In any event, they would buy their pulp from us. We are their logical source of supply," is suggested.

"Perhaps," Bell agrees, "but remember many American mills are already buying European pulp. It is as good, as cheap and as readily procurable as ours. Why should they buy from us, who have not shown ourselves friendly?"

Will Our Industries Benefit?

"At least, an Embargo would benefit our industries," someone says.

"Yes, if you mean the paper mills, you are right. They will be able to pick up the wood of the small woodlot owner at their own price. Why else would they be so eager for an Embargo? Of course, what the 'newsprint ring' gains, the woodlot owner *must* lose. He has to sell his wood to make a living; and you are only leaving him a restricted market. You know what a restricted market does to an eager seller. The wood has always been on open sale. The paper mills could prevent its export, by buying it at the market price, and there would then be no need for us to part with our resources. If their industry needs this wood—*why don't they buy it?*"

"Look at poplar. There isn't a mill in Canada, with one possible exception, that uses poplar; yet it represents an enormous percentage of our export of pulpwood. It won't keep for future generations. It will rot at maturity. It will not remain as an asset, but represents just so much revenue lost, and so much of our forest wealth wasted.

"If pulpwood cannot be sold at a fair price, forest land values will slump. You will have all those good, thrifty woodlot owners off their land in no time. There are fifty odd thousand of them, whom an Embargo would not give the means to make a living, though we guaranteed them these means from the outset.

"Canada is worrying about getting settlers to go on the land. Why not give proper consideration to those already there. If we fail to treat them fairly, is it likely that we can induce others to follow in their steps."

CANADIAN PULPWOOD ASSOCIATION